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THE WAR.

By Benjamin Hanford, New York Socialist Labor Party Candidate for Governor.

True Patriotism is Love of Country.

Love of Country is as natural to a good man as love of family.

Primarily, Patriotism does not depend on the character of the man or the nature of the country.

Be a man philosopher or fool; though he be a righteous man or a knave; surly cynic or bold iconoclast, if there be aught of good left in him, he still will love His Country and His Home.

Though his country be the wilderness or the fruitful plain, a frozen berg or burning desert sands, let her soil be niggard or fruitful, still His Country claims his love and his heart is true.

Patriotism is proper, beneficial, necessary. Every man should love his country, and love His Country best. But from that it does not follow that he should hate the country of any other man. In fact, his country is protected by its amicable relations with other nations. Just as the home and family of one man is best protected in a community where the homes and families of others have efficient protection.

True Patriotism has aroused in man the noblest impulses, called forth the energy to do his greatest works, and waked his holiest aspirations. It has raised the commonplace to greatness, in dull mediocrity found genius, and out of genius forged universal progress and glory without alloy.

But False Patriotism—the name without the character—how often has it masked rascality, paved the road to unholy war, shielded thievery at the public crib, issued license to rapine, hallowed murder by platoons, and legalized starvation by regiments.

To be patriotic, to truly love his country, it does not follow that a man should love her istitutions or her Government. Imagine, if you can, the patriotism of an Irishman who loved rack-renting absentee landlordism, or the British Government; or a patriotic Pole who loved the Government of Russia; or a Cuban patriot who loved the Spanish Government. And in 1776 the patriots were not those who loved the then government of the Cololnies which later became the United States; it was the Tories and traitors who were true to the British Government, and the lovers of their country overthrew that Government, as was their duty.

True love of country often involves a hatred of and a determination to change or destroy the existing government of that country.

Be it never so well, to merely love your country is not enough to make a true patriot—he must not only love his country well, but wisely.

* * *

"REMEMBER THE MAINE!"

At the breaking out of the recent war between the United States and Spain there might have been seen, at the Manhattan end of the New York and Brooklyn Bridge, suspended between the wires of the trolley corporations, a cotton banner bearing the words:

"Remember the Maine!"

What did those words mean in that place? That the people who owned and controlled the trolley lines were patriots? That the trolley corporations were patriotic? That they were filled with, were animated by, "Love of Country?"

Nothing of the sort. Yet it was indeed true that they sincerely desired their patrons, the public generally, and their workingmen in particular, to "Remember the Maine." Why? Simply to promote, not the interests of the public, but the interests of the trolley companies.

If the public and the company's employees would only "Remember the Maine" and the 266 men who lost their lives in its wreck, then the public and the employees might forget that these same trolley corporations had already killed nearly 200 peaceful citizens on the streets, and virtually killed many more employees by overwork and starvation wages, and were soon to start (as they have now done) on the work of killing their 300 and more victims (employees and public). "Remember the Maine!" In this case it was but another way of saying—

"Forget the Trolley Murders."

While they were killing their 200 and more, how many were wounded, how many were crippled for life?

But to tell of the killed and wounded by these particular trolley companies (only a small part of all the trolley systems in the United States) is to narrate but a portion of the history.

These same trolley companies, through a REPUBLICAN State Government, had been given, for an insignificant sum, the use of the Brooklyn Bridge; and the bargain was completed and the bridge turned over to them and to the elevated roads by the DEMOCRATIC Bridge Commissioner of a Democratic City Government.

"Remember the Maine."
"Forget the Trolley Murders."
"Forget the Bridge Steal."

Such is the patriotism of the owners of our trolley lines—who have already nearly equalled, and, if not checked, will soon surpass in their death-roll the total number of Americans killed in battle on all the fields of the Spanish-American war.

* * *

LABOR'S FIELD OF BATTLE.

This is but a sample taken from the death-roll of a single industry, and for a limited territory.

The fatalities and injuries to the employees in most industries are unknown as regards numbers. For many occupations there are no statistical reports; for other employments the reports are limited; and still others have what pretend to be full reports, but bear on their face evidences of their own incorrectness. Considering but for a moment some of the dangers to which the working class is exposel, it is clearly to be seen that the mortality of their ranks is constantly, every working day and night in the year, something far greater than the losses in battle in time of war. Some of the principal sources of fatality and injury to the working class are:

Workmen Shot When on Strike!
Lack of work.
Workmen Shot When on Strike!
Low wages for work.
Workmen Shot When on Strike!
Unprotected machinery.
Workmen Shot When on Strike!
Adulteration of food products.
Workmen Shot When on Strike!
Domicile in buildings lacking sanitary necessaries.
Workmen Shot When on Strike!
Work in sweatshops.
Workmen Shot When on Strike!
"Jerry" buildings.
Workmen Shot When on Strike!

* * *

WORKERS SLAUGHTERED.

Consider for a moment the fatalities of a particular industry. Let us take the steam railroads.

In the year ending June 30, 1897, of all the employees of the steam railroads of the United States, 1,693 were killed, or one in 486. The number injured was 27,667, or one in 30. In particular branches of railroad service (engineers, firemen, conductors, switchmen, brakemen, and others whose service is upon trains) these railroads killed in some cases one in every 150 men employed and injured one in every 10. Nor was that an unusually unfortunate year. In many of the years that have gone before the roll of killed and wounded was larger still, and if the railroads are left under their present system of private ownership we may expect to see the roster of the dead grow greater in the years to come.

Consider these figures.

Six times as many men killed in a peaceful industry each and every year as lost their lives in all the battles of the late war.

In the last eight years the number of employees killed on the steam railroads of the United States was 17,580 and the number injured 211,286, or a total of 228,866 killed and wounded—nearly as many as were in the entire American army during the late war.

Let us leave the railroads, with their 2,000 dead and 26,000 wounded per annum. Think of the mining industry, the wall paper industry, the chemical industries, gas production, running of elevators, working in sweatshops, and similar occupations, and we will see that for the working class their short life is one long and painful journey to the grave.

* * *

A LEAF FROM THE ARCHIVES OF HELL.

Strikes! Lockouts!

How many killed and wounded men?

How many starved women and children?

These things are not in statistics. The record is so black it cannot be written:

The war of Buffalo, where the switchmen struck to maintain the law, and the Democratic Governor Flower sent the militia to help the railway magnates break it, and Senator Cantor applauded him for it.

The war of Brooklyn, where the trolley men struck to maintain the law.

The war of Homestead, where the hired Pinkertons were called on to shoot the iron workers.

The war of Pullman, where the Federal Army and the Federal Courts were called on in the name of the law to overthrow the law.

The war of Lattimer, where the deputy sheriffs, in the name of law and order, violated the law, maintained disorder, and murdered workingmen by the score.

The wars of Couer d'Alene, Tennessee, New Bedford, Haverstraw, Leadville, Washington State, Sacramento, Michigan, Galveston, Pana.

North, South, East, West, from ocean to ocean, and over all the three thousand miles between; one battle after another; one murder after another; starvation, ruin, death. All in the name of law and order,—and Patriotism.

Could the true story be written, it would read like a leaf from the archives of hell.

* * *

WHEN THERE WILL BE TRUE PATRIOTISM.

And for all this—to remedy it—to consider its cause—discover a cure—apply a preventive—what has been done?

Have the Governors of States called special sessions of the Legislatures?

Has the President sent a special message to Congress?

Has he called a special session of Congress?

Nothing of the kind.

But he has been true to the Destroyers—the capitalist class and the capitalist system.

The mortgaged man of the money-makers (read money-getters), he has exercised his functions entirely and exclusively in the interests of "trade," "commerce," "business."

You workingmen!

Did you ever notice how the Government agrees with the interests of the capitalist class?

There are no deputy sheriffs sworn in for the purpose of shooting capitalists.

The Federal Army and the State militia are not called upon to train their guns on capitalists.

When you workingmen are wise enough to go to the polls and vote for your own interests you can have the political power now held by the capitalists, and use that power in your interest, instead of having it used, as now, against your interest.

When you do that—then the Army, militia, sheriffs, courts, will be with you, not after you. Then there will be true PATRIOTISM.

* * *

ROTTEN-RIPE CAPITALIST CLASS

Who caused the Spanish-American war?

Who governs, owns and controls Spain?

Capitalists.

Who governs, owns and controls the United States?

Capitalists.

Whether the war was brought about by the Government of the United States or that of Spain, the cause remains the same—Capitalism.

Both countries are owned, both countries are governed, by the same class of people—Capitalists.

Both Governments are administered in the interest of the same class—the Capitalist class.

Place the responsibility for the war where you may—on Spain or on the United States—it still rests on the Capitalist class, and on them solely.

The working class of Spain had no war with, no interest in the robbery of the Cuban working class. The Spanish workingmen got no riches from the impoverishment and robbery of the Cuban. Nor had the working class of the United States any quarrel with the working class of Spain. But because of the bungling, mismanagement or murderous rapacity of the capitalist class in those countries the Spanish and American workingmen must go to war and cut each other's throats.

The capitalist class demonstrated long since that they were unfit to manage the industries of the nation; they are now about to demonstrate that they are incapable of governing.

And how did the American capitalist conduct the war?

Who has forgotten—who can forget—the horrors of the Seneca and Concha, the cattleship Allegheny, Camps Wickoff and Chicamauga.

Less than 300 Americans killed in battle. How many dead from lack of hospital supplies? From lack of food? How many strangled by red tape and speculation and starved by rascality and robbery, neglect and incompetency?

Workingmen have had short memories. But they should not forget that, prior to the war, it was shown before a Senate Investigating Committee that armor plate companies in the United States were making plates for battleships of the Russian Government at cost, but insisted upon a profit of more than $100 per ton to make the same kind of plate for the Government of the United States. And the robbery by profit was so excessive that even the Capitalist Government refused to pay it—for a time. But the war was brought on, and the armor plate companies got their price—and the owners of those companies talk of "patriotism."

Workingmen should also remember the "patriotism" of those owners of steamboats who asked—and got—excessive prices for their craft. But the man who enlisted as a private got no share of the waste and spoil. "Profit" was not for him. He had the glorious privilege of being shot at for $16 a month, with the right to be starved and treated like a dog thrown in.

* * *

ATTEMPT TO CHINAIZE AMERICA'S WORKERS.

The war is over—perhaps.

We will now "reap the fruits of victory."

We are to annex Porto Rico, Guam, possibly Cuba, and, if the advice of the leading capitalist papers is taken, the Philippines.

Why?

The capitalist organs and agents tell us we need territorial expansion. Opportunities for the extension of commerce. Larger markets. A share of China's trade. All this according to our prosperous capitalist, will give employment to labor, bring prosperity to the workingmen.

Our prosperous capitalists and their agents and mouthpieces—the capitalist's press and the capitalist's politicians—knowingly lie, and they are liars.

The capitalist is looking to his own prosperity exclusively. It was by so doing that he became capitalist.

The prosperity of the working class is not measured by the prosperity of the capitalist.

To add to the prosperity of the working class they must receive a larger share of the wealth they create.

If the working class receive a larger share of the wealth they create, a lesser share is left for the capitalist class.

The prosperity of the one is measured by the loss to the other. No country can be truly prosperous if the capitalist class of that country (always an insignificant minority of its citizens) is prosperous.

"The markets of the world." "Trade with China and the Far East." If these are to make the working class of a country prosperous, why do the workingmen and women of England still die in the workhouse and almshouse? Why do the workingmen of England by the hundred thousand go on strike for a "living wage"—and lose?

For over a century England has robbed all the peoples of the earth, expanded her empire, controlled the trade of East and West, and been the "workshop of the world," and the condition of the English working class to-day is such that they must still strike and fight for a "living wage." And many of her citizens get no work at any wage.

"Trade with China!"

Trade for what?

Shall we buy of her the opium-eating, opium-smoking habit, and learn to "hit the pipe?" Shall we purchase of her the right to live on vermin? Shall we buy her Joss houses and her idols? And what shall we sell her? Shall we build and operate her railroads, so that we may kill another 1,693 and maim another 26,000 yearly? Shall the working class of the United States put their women and children in the mill, their men in the mine, for the benefit of China?

The workmen of China get from 2 to 10 cents per day. To sell them commodities, the commodities must be produced cheaply. To produce commodities cheaply, those producing them must work for low wages.

There you have it.

That is the secret of the capitalist's concern for the markets of the Far East, and the prosperity of the working class.

That is his "business." That is his "function" in society. That is his "use" to society. That is the "work" he performs. Scheming to skin workingmen; to increase profits by lowering wages.

He would have the American workingman compete with the Chinese workingman and thereby lower the wage, not only of the "sovereign citizen" of the United States, but of the Chinaman as well.

No matter how low wages may be, the interest of the capitalist is that they shall be lower still.

* * *

THE CAPITALIST CLASS MUST BE OVERTHROWN.

Considered as a class, the capitalist class is wholly bad. Individuals in it may rise above it, as a mushroom (but more often a toadstool) may grow out of dung, but the class is rotten.

Its patriotism, like its religion, is a pretense.

A class that can calmly see thousands of peaceful, industrious citizens slaughtered at home every year, without turning a hair or reaching forth a hand to help or remedy, is a murderous class. Let it exploit its sham patriotism while it may, its days are numbered.

There is a small but rapidly growing number of citizens who know the terrible conditions that exist, and know their cause, and know the remedy.

The Socialists of the United States propose that the shop, the mine, the railroad and the factory shall cease to be a human shambles to run for the purpose of producing profits for the parasitical, murderous capitalist class. They are superfluous, they are injurious, they are but lice on the lion's skin, and as easily rid of.

The Socialists propose that mine and mill, factory and railway—all means of transportation, communication and distribution—shall be owned by those who work and operate them (being also those who produced them); and, being owned by the workers, it must follow that they will be run in the interest of the workers.

"Expansion of territory!"

Here at home is a paradise, a Garden of Eden, waiting, asking, that the working class shall inhabit and inherit it. No angel nor devil with flaming sword standing at the gate to bar entrance. None but the capitalist class, the dog-in-the-manger class, who cannot use the Garden themselves, but will not allow others to partake of its fruits though there be famine in the land. It will be open to all the peoples of the earth on the day when they shall discard the superstition that the capitalist is of "use" in the production of wealth.

"Trade with China!"

The Socialist says let us exchange with each other.

Production for Use—not profit; nor China.

Exchange of value for equal value—not trade for profit, margins, per cent.

* * *

How?

You men who work are in a large majority in this country.

Vote for the Socialist Labor party.

Capture the Political Power.

Use it in the interest of the Working Class.

Have Your legislatrve bodies pass the laws in Your interest.

Have Your judges declare those laws constitutional.

Have Your executives enforce the laws in Your interest.

Then take from the capitalist class "their" land and capital—the former of which is Nature's gift, and the latter of which is Your own product—and You have drawn their teeth. Take from them "their" mills, factories, workshops, and they can no longer perpetuate their class. Take from them the political power, and they can no longer poison or sting.

And then, when the capitalist class can no longer breed, nor bite, nor sting, then there will be an opportunity for the workers of the world to enter into their own.

Then the industrial world will cease to be a battlefield and shambles. Then they who work will eat. They who spin and weave shall wear. They who build shall inhabit—and they who do none of these may starve.

Do what with the Capitalist?

Workingman, do not worry about him. Look out for yourself and your class.

O Workingmen!

Cease fighting the battles of your enemies and winning victories that are defeats.

Fight for yourselves, your class.

Vote the Socialist Labor party ticket, and, thereby, for the programme of the class-conscious working class the world over, whose demand is:

THE ABOLITION OF WAGE-SLAVERY!

THE UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER OF THE CAPITALIST CLASS.

The receipt of a sample copy of this paper is an invitation to subscribe.

OPEN LETTER

To the Voters of the 12th Mass. Congress District.

Jeremiah O'Fihelly, S. L. P. Candidate for Congress in the 12th Massachusetts District, Adresses an Earnest Appeal to the Voters to Rally Around the Colors of their Own Class on Election Day—The Economic Fight of the Wage Slave Class, Unsupported by a Class-Conscious Political Movement of their Own Futile.

To the working class voters of the Twelfth Massachusetts Congressional District.

Fellow Citizens:—As the Socialist Labor party candidate for Congress in this district, I wish to state clearly my position and the position of the party that has honored me with the nomination so that you, fellow wage-workers may intelligently either support or oppose with your votes.

The Socialist Labor party holds that the working class can be best represented by class-conscious members of its own class; by men who are conscious of the present degraded position of the producers, and who realizes that the salvation of themselves and their fellow men lies in the working class' getting control of the powers of Government, and in the collective ownership and operation by all of all the machinery of production and distribution.

The wage-workers are the majority of the voters in this Congress district and can, if aroused to a sense of their own power, rights and duties, choose as their representative a class-conscious member of their own class, instead of a capitalist or a hireling of the capitalist class—as they have done in years past.

A vote for the candidates of the Socialist Labor party is a step towards the Co-operative Commonwealth. A vote for either of the old parties only tightens the chains of your slavery, helps to decrease your already scanty wages, and lessens your opportunity of finding a master willing to employ you. To vote for either the Democratic or Republican party is to vote for the capitalist class and the capitalist system of Government; and by that vote you record your willingness to have your wife or children put into the factory while you yourself are turned adrift to take some other worker's job or become a tramp.

The working class is so situated the world over that the situation that lately confronted the people at New Bedford may confront you to-morrow. The blood which is hardly dry upon the ground at Hazleton, Chicago, and Homestead is the blood of wage-workers who only begged for a small portion of their rights; nor can we tell from one day to another that such scenes will not be re-enacted here in Massachusetts. All parts of our fair country are subject to the terrible acts of irresponsible competition.

A vote for the Socialist Labor party is a vote for your own class; a vote for freedom for all; a vote to educate your children and free them and your wives from the slavery of the factory; to change your own condition from the present one of incessant health-destroying toil to that of joint owner, of the machinery of production by which with little labor enough can be produced for all.

Fellow wage-slave citizens, your strength is at the ballot box. Strike where your votes outnumber those of your oppressors ten to one, if not more.

In the factory the capitalist class has thousands of dollars against your pennies, and has besides all the powers of Government—Executive, Legislative, Judicial—at its call, and can by injunction or bayonets, or both, compel you to submit to the terms of the capitalist.

Vote yourselves into the possession of those powers of Government which the capitalist class now holds because of your votes in the past.

Vote for the peaceful revolution, and show the world that the wage-workers of the Twelfth Massachusetts Congressional District are intelligent enough to vote for their own interests.

The employer laughs at a strike in his factory because he knows that the reserve army of starving unemployed can easily be induced to take the place of strikers and that to-day the workers are not politically united; but every ballot cast for Socialism strikes terror into the hearts of the capitalists.

Against the robbery of the workers, the degradation of our women and the ruin, mental, physical and moral of our children, enter your protest; demand the full product of your labor; the collective ownership of the means of production and distribution by voting for Jer. O'Fihelly, of Abington, for Representative to Congress in the Twelfth District; for G. P. Peare, of Lynn, for Governor, and for each and every other candidate of the S. L. P. on the ballot.

JER. O'FIHELLY.
Abington, Mass., Sept. 1, 1898.

The English translation of Karl Marx' Eighteenth Brumaire," that recently ran through THE PEOPLE, is now to be had bound in an elegant volume of 78 pages, with Marx' picture as frontispiece. This work is of great value. No Socialist, even though he be no student, and no student, even though he be no Socialist, can afford to be without it. Apply Labor News Co., 64 E. 4th street, N. Y. City. Price 25 cents.

Keep an eye on your wrapper. See when your subscription expires. Renew in time. It will prevent interruption in the mailing of the paper and facilitate work at the office.

IOWA.

State Convention of the Socialist Labor Party.

Manifesto to the Workers—Democratic and Republican False Issues—Local State Platform—Co-operative Colonies—No a la Glasgow Municipalization—No Sumptuary Legislation—On the War and Conscription—Requests to Comrades in the State—The Ticket—A Call to the Iowan Proletariat to Rally Around its Class Banner.

DAVENPORT, Ia., Aug. 31.—On the 6th and 7th of this month, the seventh State convention of the Socialist Labor party of Iowa met, under the presidency of M. J. Kremer, at Davenport. The convention nominated a full State ticket and issued the following

MANIFESTO:

We, the delegates of the S. L. P. of Iowa, in a convention assembled, in the city of Davenport, wish to call the attention of the workers of this State to their miserable conditions and to the fact that, in the midst of plenty, millions of willing workers are on the verge of starvation, compelled to tramp the roads and streets throughout this country, in search of work, to obtain means to support themselves and families, but are looking in vain. Why is this?

Simply because under our present capitalist system it is impossible for them to compete with improved machinery owned by private capitalists and as long as the manufacturer finds it cheaper to use the power of machinery, he will not trouble himself with workingmen.

We also wish to remind the workers of the promises of the Republican party two years ago. All it was necessary for them to do was to elect McKinley, and Prosperity would come to them as never seen before. But look around and ask yourselves if prosperity is not farther off now than two years ago? Are not the wages all over the country cut down from 30 to 50 per cent? Is it not a continued losing of jobs, an increase of misery, of murders, suicides and crimes of all kinds and a proportional decrease in manhood?

We also call your attention to the folly of the workers to expect any relief from the Silver Democrats, who try to convince you that by depreciating the money standard 50 per cent., which means that the mortgaged indebtness of their class, amounting to about 6,000 million dollars, could have been paid by 3,000 million dollars, would better your condition. But they failed to succeed. While the majority of the workers, unable as yet to see their way out of bondage, the way marked out by the S. L. P., were nevertheless clearsighted enough to perceive that no benefit whatever could accrue to the working class by substituting a silverbug farmocracy for a goldbug plutocracy. By so doing they dealt a deadblow to the retogressive farmocracy whose mortgages are now pitilessly foreclosed to the amount of several hundred millions a year. They also sealed the doom of the mercantile middle class residing in cities, and advanced the supreme conflict between Socialism and Capitalism.

Toilers of Iowa, we again call upon you to break the chains of partyism which bind you to the chariot wheels of capitalism as slaves; think of the foolishness it is for a wealth-producer to elect a wealth-absorber to make laws for him. It is as foolish as if you would ask a man to commit suicide. The time has come when the worker will necessarily have to become class-conscious in politics as well as in economics to join that party which guarantees him the full value of his product.

Fellow workers, such a party is the Socialist Labor party, which raises its voice in protest against the wrong perpetrated on the working class. It has never faltered, never did, and never will sell out to any other party. Its foundation is knowledge and science; its motto is "One for all, and all for one." Therefore, we ask you to join the Socialist Labor party, to study its principles and vote for your emancipation from wage-slavery.

STATE PLATFORM.

Recognizing the fact that our public roads and rivers are in bad condition, we demand that the legislature of Iowa take the necessary steps at the earliest moment to improve them, and thus give employment to the unemployed at fair wages.

Recognizing the evils that flow from child labor and its companion ignorance, we demand the enactment of a State law prohibiting the employment of children under 16 years of age in factories, stores, mills, etc., and also the enactment of a law requiring the attendance at school of all children under 16 years of age, books furnished free to all children and public assistance in meals, clothing, etc., when necessary.

Believing, that a shortening of the workday will put more people to work, we demand a law reducing the hours of labor in proportion to the progress of production.

Believing that life and health are more sacred than property, we demand their protection by an efficient employer's liability law.

Believing in the integrity and honesty of the people, we demand a direct vote and a secret ballot in all elections, universal and equal right of suffrage without regard to color, creed or sex, the people to have the right to propose laws and to vote upon all measures of importance, according to the referendum principle. The principle of proportional representation to be introduced. Election days to be legal holidays.

Repeal of all pauper, tramp, conspiracy and sumptuary laws. Unabridged right of combination.

(Continued on page 4.)

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ALLIED PRINTING TRADES UNION LABEL COUNCIL NEW YORK CITY

SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

In 1888 (Presidential)	2,068
In 1890	13,331
In 1892 (Presidential)	21,157
In 1894	33,133
In 1896 (Presidential)	36,564
In 1897	55,673

I stand here, friends, to urge that a new leaf be turned over—that the labor class, instead of idly and blindly waiting for better circumstances and better times, shall begin at once to consider and discuss the means of controlling circumstances and commanding times, by study, calculation, foresight, union. HORACE GREELEY.

"SACRED PROPERTY."

The minority stockholders, of preferred stock, at that, of three corporations—the General Electric Company, the New York and Harlem Railroad, and the Lake Shore Railroad—are just now rubbing their shins; 'tis to be hoped that they may be rubbing their eyes, too. Had they been stopped on the highways, covered with pistols and bloodgeons, and their pockets then calmly, coolly, quietly rifled, their experience could not have been rougher; as it is, there is added to their experience a bit of information that can proceed from the capitalist system only;—information on the "Sacredness of Property."

The few holders of the majority of the stock in these corporations decided that the property in the hands of the minority holders was too much for the health of the latter, and that a goodly lump thereof should be placed into the hands of the majority holders. The plan was carried out "according to due forms of law.". In one instance, they depreciated the capital, thus causing a shrinkage of nearly 3 per cent. of the dividends of their "partners"; in the second case, they brow-beat the minority stockholders with threats of all nature into yielding to them $220,000 a year additional dividends; and in the last instance, they played the blackmail game to perfection, and having the minority holders at their mercy, extorted out of them an "agreement" to yield up a good lump of their havings. All this was done without a strain of the law, in fact, it was done agreeable to "Law," "Order" and all the other patron saints of Capital's tabernacle.

Now what does all this mean?

The "Sacredness of Property" is one of the most favorite mystifications of the capitalist class. Socialism, say they, violates this sacredness; "the safety of property is the cornerstone of civilization," etc:. etc:.

That property should be sacred, and that its safety is the cornerstone of civilization is just. Capitalism, however, commits crime behind the mask of righteousness. It is the burden of Socialist song that Socialism has risen to uphold in fact principles essential to the safety of society, and that Capitalism violates. The property of the working class, the product of its labor, does not remain in its hands to enjoy; it is stolen from it by the capitalist class. Thus at the very root of capitalist production there is violation of the sacredness of property: the wealth the capitalist class lives on, and thus the existence of the capitalist class itself, is a flat denial of the property's sacredness.

Yet this wrong, upheld by the whole property-holding class, eventually turns to plague the inventor. The members of the capitalist class have cared little how the working class was robbed; the beneficiaries of the theft, they glorified it by singing the praises of the Sacredness of Property. They little thought how the poison they injected into the social system would eventually tell even upon themselves. That is what now is happening. The small holders of property (stock and the like) now find thmselves hoisted by their own petard. Now they are discovering that the application they have made of the "Sacredness of Property" is being applied to themselves To the identical tune that they have robbed others, themselves are now being robbed; and the principle is identical.

How came they to rob others? How came they to have the power to uphold the Sacredness of Property by violating it?

The private possessor of capital can rob the class that has none because the latter can not compete with the former. This is the underlying principle of class robbery. By virtue of this principle, the private possessor of some capital has fleeced and fleeces the working class; but by virtue of the identical principle, the private possessor of bigger capital can and does fleece the private possessor of smaller capital.—And this is what is happening all along, and has lately befallen the small holders of General Electric, New York & Harlem, and Lake Shore stock.

With the distress of these we have no sympathy. Robbed robbers are not a subject for commiseration. We stop long enough before the spectacle to gather encouragement at the sight of the capitalist class strangling its own members.

WHAT CAUSE?

Lieutenant-Colonel Henry of the French Army, now a suicide and convicted of forgery in the Dreyfuss case out of his own mouth, wrote before his death a letter in which he declares he did what he did "for the good of the cause."

What "cause"?

It takes all the silliness of which our metropolitan press is capable to impute the stupendous Dreyfuss incident to a petty cause, to an amour—to a woman. Granting all that the fascination of a fascinating and intriguing woman might do, it is not enough to account for a conspiracy that takes in so many people of different temperaments, and that withal was conducted in the systematic manner in which the conspiracy, nominally against Dreyfuss, has, it is now evident, been conducted.

At the time of the recent triple elections in Europe—Belgium, France and Germany—it was pointed out that the result of the elections brought out the lines on which the final struggle was to be fought out. In Belgium, the capitalist class political party was virtually eliminated: it was absorbed in the Clerical party, and the two parties dividing the country were the Socialist or workingmen's party and the Clerical party. In Germany, the capitalist political parties had lost on the whole, leaving as the two political titans on the field the Socialist and the Clerical parties. Finally, in France, the bourgeois Government went into an alliance with the Clerical element to down the Socialist, with the ultimate result that the result of the elections was "Socialist workingmen versus Clerical conspirators." In all the three cases it became evident that the atheistic capitalist class had run for shelter behind the skirts of its old antagonist—the clergy.

The "cause" for which Col. Henry forged false testimony, is none other than the "cause" that has driven the capitalist into the arms of the parson—the endeavor to stem the oncoming revolution of the working class, the endeavor to save the neck of Privilege, Rapine, Tyranny, mental and physical Enslavement.

The details of the wide-spread conspiracy will some time be known. Its magnitude and power are appalling. And yet, what a source of gratification must it not be for the soldiers of the present Revolution to discover the inherent power of the high morality of their own Cause, and the inherent weakness of the cause of the International Crime they are struggling with, when despite their material weakness and their foes' material strength, their own great Cause steadily works its way through, throwing consternation into the midst of their foe, making its weapon turn against itself, its members physically cutting their own throats, and dark clouds of infamy settling down upon itself.

Surely, if ever the speres fought on the side of a Cause, it is now by their interposition against the "Cause" of the rallied Crime of all centuries making its last stand before the Cause of an avenging humanity that, at last, is to enter into its own kingdom,—the full possession of the Rights of Man.

A weak attempt was made by the police of Yonkers last Monday to break up a Socialist meeting.

Comrade A. S. Brown was the speaker in Getty square, Yonkers. The comrades had arranged for an open-air meeting and procured a truck. The police Captain decided that the truck was an "obstruction" and tried to prevent the meeting. However, Comrade Brown politely told him that we would hold the meeting anyway, even without the "truck," and we did; and a good-sized crowd listened with earnestness to the speaker's remarks.

Comrade Brown's remarks on the late war with Spain and the treatment our soldiers have been receiving was enthusiastically applauded. One soldier present remarked, that if the Socialist party would only go among the soldiers in the camps at the present time, it would be a very easy matter to convert them, as they feel that they have been most shamefully exploited by the capitalist class.

It is to be hoped these same soldiers will have sense enough to rally to the banner of Socialism by next November.

The Labor Day parade of the Socialist Labor party and affiliated organizations of Paterson, N. J., last Monday was the occasion for a significant episode.

It happened that the line of march was by the residence of Vice-President Hobart, whose home is Paterson; and it also happened that President McKinley was that day at Hobart's, recovering from the effects of his inspection tour to the Camp Wickoff pest hole where soldiers are suffering more than they did in Cuba. When the music of the approaching parade struck the Hobart mansion, both McKinley and Hobart took it to be an approaching ovation to themselves, brought by parading workingmen. The two hastened to the front piazza, and there struck an attitude. The attitude soon changed, at least their countenances did. The cheers, the enthusiasm, in short, the ovation they had expected was conspicuous by its absence. Silently the parade filed by; and when the division of the workingmen's children passed, bearing a banner with the motto: "Capitalism Eats up Children," the slap dealt in the face to the two official representatives of the exploiting class, standing on that piazza, was not only felt, but could be heard for blocks away.

POLITICAL and ECONOMIC.

The question, Is the Baltimore, Ind., "Granite Cutters' Journal" more fool than knave, or more knave than fool? may now be considered fairly up for discussion.

Letters have recently appeared in its columns from Comrade Lemmon, secretary of the Barre, Vt., Granite Cutters' Local Union, pointedly charging Samuel Gompers with passing over the heads of all the trades union nominees for the New York Senate in a recent campaign, and endorsing a capitalist politician, one Jacob Cantor, who, uniformly shut his eyes to wrongs done to the working class, and who, moreover, applauded Governor Flower when he sent the militia of the whole State into Buffalo to break the strike of the Switchmens' Union. Gompers' answer to the charge will be remembered by our readers. It was published in the issue of last July 24. Commenting upon that wondrous production, we said at the time:

"All of that (Gompers' answer) constitutes an autograph picture that we could not ourselves have represented Gompers more accurately in; a caught swindler, caught red-handed and wriggling in the hands of his captors, does not wriggle more self-condemnatorily."

Not satisfied with having helped to pillory its protege Gompers, the "Granite Cutters' Journal" now returns to the subject and prints a question and answer on this subject from Gompers and Cantor respectively.

Gompers' question to his capitalist chum, Cantor, is this:

"Will you answer me whether you ENDORSED or applauded the action of the Governor of the State of New York in calling out the militia of the State to overawe strikers, and to shoot them down? Will you state to me whether you have, at any time, made any remark in the legislature, or out of it, in regard to a matter of this character?"

Cantor's answer to his labor fakir Gompers is this:

"The statement 'that I applauded the action of the Governor of the State in calling out the militia of the State to overawe strikers and shoot them down,' is maliciously false and untrue, and any one who knows me or followed my career, would never intimate any such suggestion. Of course, it is needless for me to say, that no such statement was ever made by me, either in the legislature or out of it. I have year after year received from labor organizations of the State in their reports honorable mention for my efforts in behalf of organized labor, which of itself is an answer to the statement attributed to me."

And the "Granite Cutters' Journal" closes the article with these words:

"This should forever set at rest the question about Mr. Cantor's friendship to labor's interest, as well as Mr. Gompers' relationship to him, and we trust will be conclusive to all."

Conclusive it certainly is as to both Mr. Gompers' and Mr. Cantor's guilt; but it is not conclusive as to whether the labor paper that prints both question and answer is a fool or a knave; is taken in itself, or seeks to take in others.

Asked whether he "endorsed or applauded," Cantor says nothing about "endorsing," hides himself in a dust of pure and simple "honorable mentions," and denies with vigor that he "applauded," no doubt meaning that he did not stand on his seat in the Senate and clapped his hands. No, he did not do that; at least we don't know that he did, though he might.—And that is given out as conclusive of "Cantor's friendship for labor"!

Our store of ammunition is well stocked on this Gompers-Cantor swindle on the working class; we have still much in reserve—as both Gompers and Cantor no doubt know, or suspect—; but we shall abide our time for its proper use. In the meantime we propose to hunt down these political swindlers with the guns we have so far brought into the field and propose to have some fun in the chase.

In pursuit of this policy, we now address this question to Senator Cantor:

"Do you repudiate as wrong, and a violation of his oath of office, the conduct of Governor Flower in sending the militia into Buffalo at the time of the switchmen's strike? Do you repudiate that act, or do you not? Yes or no! No dodging!"

We pause for a reply from the "friend of labor" and the endorsee of Gompers.—Workingmen, give ear!

The Dublin, Ireland, "Workers' Republic" puts (with a Celtic wit, that brings out all the stronger the scientific soundness of its position), the finance question in a nutshell. It says on that subject:

"Consider, do our masters fight over religion when their pockets are involved? No. The only union of Home Ruler and Unionist we have had in the last generation, viz., that over the Financial Relations Question, was on a question not of principle, but of purse.

"Not the purse of the people. Indeed with most of the working class a purse would be a mere superfluity, like breeches to a highlandman, or a conscience to a politician. They would not have any use for it, or know what to do with it.

"For the Financial Relations Questions does not concern the workers in town or country. Our wages as workers are fixed, roughly speaking, by our competition for employment. If there are many unemployed, our wages WILL BE low; if there are few idle, our wages MAY BE high; but whether our masters pay heavy direct taxation or none at all, does not affect our wages.

"Ditto with the tenants in the country districts. Their rents are fixed by the Land Court in proportion, not to the value of the land, but in proportion to their ability to pay. In estimating that ability, taxes are taken into consideration as well as prices of agricultural produce.

"If, not merely Ireland's (?) overtaxation, but all taxes in Ireland were abolished to-morrow, the Land Court would see in that fact a reason why the tenant, his expenses being lower, could pay a higher rent, and would fix it accordingly.

"The Financial Relations agitation is merely a fight between Irish capitalists and landlords, and English capitalists and landlords. The working people cannot hope for anything good as a result of the struggle, except, perhaps, that it might end like the famous struggle between the Kilkenny cats—in the mutual destruction of both parties.

"The only Financial Relation with which the working class are concerned generally hangs out three golden balls.

"Oh, my prophetic soul, my uncle."

In connection herewith, it is here in place to convey to our Irish colleague the following greeting sent to it by the City Committee of the Boston, Mass., Socialist Labor party:

"Boston, Sept. 1, 1898.

"To the Workers' Republic, 67 Middle Abbey street, Dublin, Ireland:

"Greeting—Your arrival among us in America is timely. Your bold and brave tone will stir the blood of our Irish-Americans; your clear vision will light the path of advance by clearing away the haze of intellectual sentiment; will turn the heart's emotion to the true cause of dependence and poverty.

"Grounded in the knowledge of the great discovery of surplus value by Marx, you will translate enthusiasm for freedom into the field of action—show the Irishman for what to fight, the Socialist Republic.

"May your days as they pass add to your power, and each issue, more virile than the last, say especially to your countrymen, in whatever land they may be found, that Ireland may be free when America is free; when France is free; when England is free; when Germany is free; when the capitalist world shall have been freed by the workers, who, taking control of governments, establish political democracy, economic democracy, a high task, a holy task.

"Fraternally, Socialists of Boston.

MARTHA MOORE AVERY,
Secretary.
DAVID GOLDSTEIN,
Organizer, 10 Dalmatia street,
Roxbury, Mass.

It isn't all bad that comes from the old parties. How true this is the Democratic party of Ohio, in convention assembled, has just proved.

Many a time and oft have we pointed out the mischief of tearing one of the specific planks of our national platform out of its context, and placing that out of perspective with the whole. This has especially been done with our party demand for the referendum and initiative. We pointed out that any one such plank could easily be inserted by any political party of the exploiting class into its own platform, and that, in proportion as "reformers" had made much of such a plank, the capitalist politician could pose as "coming our way" and beguile many an unguarded voter. The referendum and initiative plank, for instance, disconnected from the Socialist demand for the abolition of wage-slavery is as unmeaning as a hoop disconnected from the barrel-staves it holds together. There can be the referendum and initiative without Socialism and with cruel exploitation of labor as in Switzerland. Such planks are so "inoffensive" that all is needed is to have people imagine there is a special virtue in them for the capitalist parties to incorporate them,—and thus catch gullies with. That is just what the Democracy of Ohio seems to have done, judging from this correct squib in the Cleveland, O., "Citizen":

"Well, sir; now there will be fun! At the State convention of the Democratic party, at Dayton this week, the initiative and referendum was put in the platform, and thus the wind was taken out of the sails of the Union Reform party very neatly. The one-plank party fellows will now have to go over to the Bourbons or stand accused of being insincere and Hannacrats. The Democrats will steal everything, including a red-hot stove, excepting a Socialist platform."

Says the New York "Voice" with a wisdom strategic, physiologic, biologic, sociologic and tomfoologic that is transcedent:

"Sir Herbert Kitchner marched up the 'man-eating' Soudan with an army that had no beverage save water and tea, won a great victory, and goes marching on to win more."

But the strategically, physiologically and otherwise wise "Voice" is mighty silent on the fact that the routed Khalifa and his followers themselves had no other beverage save water.

In the meantime the capitalist class, Prohibition and otherwise, goes merrily on fleecing the workers.

As an instance of the gratitude of Capital towards those who do its work, and of the gratitude of a capitalist country towards its heroes, the following passage from the London, Eng., "Justice" will do:

"John Loudon, General Scarlett's old trumpeter, who sounded the charge of the 'Heavies' at Balaclava, is in the workhouse. Some people regard it as a national disgrace that an old veteran like Loudon should be reduced to such quarters. Is it not rather a national disgrace that such quarters should be unfit for such men as he?"

APPEAL

Of the Arbeiter-Zeitung, Jewish, Publishing Association.

Comrades and Sympathizers:—For the first time in the history of its existence the A. Z. P. A. feels constrained to make the appeal for funds from all comrades and sympathizers with our cause.

Though the official organ of the S. L. P. and S. T. & L. A., in the Jewish language, the "Arbeiter-Zeitung" has never received or asked for any financial support from the party. During the eight years of its existence, the "Abendblatt," the daily issue of the "Arbeiter-Zeitung" and the "Arbeiter-Zeitung" have done yeoman service in the movement, advocating the principles of Socialism, pointing out the right way for the Jewish trade-unions and labor movement generally, besides waging a relentless war, in its own special domain, against all race prejudices and superstitions brought over by the Jewish masses from the old country, where conditions are so different and traditions of an ignorant past reign supreme.

In this war our Jewish organ had to encounter the fierce opposition of the Jewish capitalist press, and especially its most influential organ, the "Tageblatt," run by an unscrupulous individual for his own individual interests, who poses as the champion of Judaism and the interests of the Jewish people, and who tries to play exclusively on the religious and race prejudices of the ignorant masses. Our organ was in turn traduced as "atheistic," "anarchistic," anti-Semitic," pro-Spanish," etc., etc. But all in vain. The Jewish workers, the class-conscious part of the Jewish proletariat, which owes to the efforts of the "Arbeiter Zeitung" its emancipation from ignorance, and to a great extent its very organization, knew better than to listen to the outcry of the Jewish capitalist sheet, which lately assumed the attitude of "a friend of labor" and shed crocodile tears over the fate of the "poor workingman."

But a few weeks ago the "Abendblatt" began to publish a series of articles which created the greatest sensation in the Jewish world and whose effect began to threaten the very existence not only of that heretofore solid capitalistic sheet, the "Tageblatt," but also of the private interests of its owner who has his paw deep in the public pie.

The articles referred to contained a series of well authenticated facts, which will be supported by sworn testimony before the court, and photographic reproductions of genuine documents and papers highly incriminating to the publisher of that capitalist "Tageblatt," Mr. Sharason, and showing that he appropriated for his own use monies collected from poor Jews for the relief of the poor in Jerusalem, and that he bribed and corrupted several officials connected with the organization having charge of these monies.

The sensation produced by these revelations has been immense and has not subsided as yet; it not only opened the eyes of many Jewish workingmen, not yet converted to Socialism, as to the character of the man who for years abused and slandered the Socialist organ, but also created a still greater indignation among the orthodox Jews who have been so far THE element on which Sharason built his power and from which he drew his wealth to live on and fight labor with.

His circulation began to decrease, and what is more important, the contributions to the relief-fund for Jerusalem Jews threatened to dry up. Our brave Jewish organ, which all the time fought single-handed this capitalist organ on one hand, and, on the other, the so-called "Socialist opposition" paper which supported the "Tageblatt" in all its absurd attacks on the "Abendblatt," now gained immensely in its moral prestige, so much so as to draw the applause even of many an oppositionist, who had not entirely been hypnotized by his unscrupulous leaders, as well as of orthodox organizations.

The matter now became a question of life and death to the publisher of the "Tageblatt": if he kept still he would soon lose all. He was therefore compelled to make the last desperate move to crush his foe. Proceedings have now been instituted by him against the "Abendblatt" for "libel." The "Abendblatt" finds suddenly two lawsuits on its hands, one a criminal and the other a civil one for $20,000. Our cause is a just one, and we know that we are bound to come victorious out of this struggle, with the result that the S. L. P. will gain still more in prestige in the 9th Congressional District and roll up a higher vote in the coming elections. The case will work as an eye-opener among the Jewish population and give ample food for agitation, which the "Abendblatt" will know how to utilize.

But in the meantime money is needed and in great quantities at that; good lawyers have to be, and have already partly been retained for the case, which involves many intricate points of law. Justice under the capitalistic regime is rather a costly article, and money has to be spent right and left. This has been the boasted object of our foe from the very beginning. His hope is that we would not live to see the end of the trial as we would break down under the weight of the expenses which he has been trying to bring upon us by instituting new proceedings every day, arresting our editors and thus trying to cause the delay in the issue of our daily paper, as well as giving us untold trouble in finding bondsmen for bail, etc.

In this crisis the Publishing Association, which consists of poor workingmen who have not stored up treasures by publishing the paper, and have exhausted all their means in the unequal struggle with their rich foe, have decided to appeal to all the comrades and friends for funds to support us in our fight for justice and Socialism. Let us show the capitalist politician and bribe-giver that he has counted without the solidarity of the Socialist workingmen when he had conceived the idea of crushing our Jewish organ. Desiring to create a prejudiced attitude to us on the part of the judge, Sharason charged us with being "Anarchists, Socialists and Atheists." Let us by a tangible proof of our solidarity show to the public outside of the court, which with us is after all the court of final appeal, that Socialist solidarity is not mere sound, thus teaching our fellow citizens an object lesson.

Comrades, this is an occasion of great importance; a daily organ which has been of incalculable benefit to our movement is in danger from the attack of our enemies. Will you leave your few Jewish comrades to fight the battle alone, poorly equipped? For the sake of our movement we hope you will not. Send subscriptions, collect money among your friends and acquaintances and send all the sums small and large to the treasurer of the Defense Committee,

DR. J. HALPERN,
c. o. "Abenblatt."
No. 9 Rutgers street,
New York City.

All contributions, no matter how small, will be receipted in the party organs, and will go exclusively to the Defense Fund.

Fraternally,
THE ARBEITER ZEITUNG PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION.

The foregoing call has been endorsed by the National Executive Committee, S. L. P., and comrades are urged to render all aid possible.

For the National Executive Committee,
HENRY KUHN, Secretary.

Authorized Agents for THE PEOPLE.

BUFFALO, N. Y.:
Peter Steenmans, Jr., 52 Guilford street.

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Max Keller, 1016 Hope street.

The numerous calls that have come in for the New Bedford speech "What Means This Strike?" published in these columns a few weeks ago, has determined the National Executive Committee to reprint it in pamphlet form. It can be had at the Labor News Company, 64 E. 4th street, this city. Single copies, 5 cents; 10 copies, 30 cents; 100 copies, $2.50.



UNCLE SAM & BROTHER JONATHAN.

Bother Jonathan—See that crowded excursion boat! Heavens, what a jam!

Uncle Sam—That company will make a good round sum to-day on the discomfort of the excursionists.

B. J.—I should think so! Now, do you see that boat?

U. S.—I doestest.

B. J.—And have you estimated the suffering of its crowd?

U. S.—I hastest.

B. J. (self-complacently)—Well, now, that boat, with its load of suffering, is a floating refutation of Socialist theory.

U. S.—Set the theory afloat.

B. J.—Socialism opposes competition; that boat has no competition; there you have what Socialism would take us to. If that boat had competition, it would not so wrecklessly disregard the comfort of its passengers, whose fares it collects.

U. S.—Of course, you have read up on Socialism—

B. J.—Don't I show I did?

U. S.—Can't say you do.

B. J.—Aren't Socialists opposed to competition?

U. S.—Your question gives you away. To ask whether Socialists are opposed to competition is to imply that Socialist theories are akin to free trade, or protection, or other such theories. A person may oppose free trade and prefer protection; but there is no reason why free trade may not go on, even if not desirable. A person may oppose protection and favor free trade; but neither is there any reason why protection may not go on even if not desirable. In both cases opposition implies that the other thing would be better, but it does not imply that the thing opposed to has become impossible.

B. J.—I grant that.

U. S.—Now then, the Socialist attitude toward competition in production is of entirely different nature.

B. J.—In what way "different." I can't see the difference.

U. S.—Probably you can't; and that's why you criticize Socialism. Now, then, as to competition, Socialism holds this language:

"It is no longer the question whether competition be good or bad. The question is whether competition is now possible."

B. J.— Well, put it that way.

U. S.—If you put it that way, and then proceed intelligently to answer the question, Is competition still possible? then you will understand Socialism.

B. J.—Well, isn't it any longer possible?

U. S.—No! The capital needed to run an excursion boat business is now so large that it virtually excludes competition. So long as a little money was all that was needed to get up a little sailing craft and take on passengers for an outing, there could be competition. But now, when steamboats are required; when connections with railroads are needed; when large expenditures are requisite for advertisements and the like, then only those can take a hand in the business who have the requisite capital. That requisite capital is found from day to day in fewer hands. Thus competition is made less and less possible, in some cases impossible.

B. J.—Hem!

U. S.—What are you coughing about?

B. J.—This thing looks differently from what I thought.

U. S.—When a capitalist tells you competition is the right thing because it produces a better service, he is humbugging you. He plays upon your ignorance. He tells you a one-quarter seeming truth, and suppresses the other three-quarters. It is the same as if one were to tell you flying is the right thing and did not give you wings to fly with, and kept you from getting them.

B. J.—By thunder!

U. S.—Thus, that crowded boat, with its load of suffering, is, not "a floating refutation of Socialism," it is a floating argument in its favor. Socialism holds that, seeing competition is rendered impossible by concentrated capital by the privately owned tool of production which is so powerful as to render competition hard or impossible, and seeing that the result of that is popular suffering, afloat or ashore, that, therefore, the means of production and distribution should cease to be private property and be made national property owned and operated by, through and for the people.

B. J.—Shake hands, I'm with you!

U. S.—Meet me on election day at the hustings and cast your vote straight for the Socialist Labor party candidates, which means for the only political platform that can abolish the ills that results from competition-destroying concentration of capital.

FORCED FROM COVER.

A Word on the Shoeworker—His Condition and Craft Union, together with a few Unjuggled Figures.

Mr. Horace Eaton, of the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union, usually displays a marvelous economy of common sense, but in his report to the 1896 convention he dropped his astuteness and attacked a grand truth, formulating the plan of his organization. On page 24 he says, "A special providence seems to have watched over the affairs of the Union since its inception, and to have enabled it to keep clear of strikes and lockouts of large dimensions, which if indulged in could produce nothing but disaster." That is his estimation of the efficiency of the B. & S. W. U., and, as an economic weapon, we place it no lower.

When the Union was launched the Socialists were hopeful, but its career has been one of steady degeneration. A Socialist was elected its president. He had fought well and valiantly for a political declaration, but without avail. Since then he has become pure and simple minded, and his position stands in the way of his duty.

We judge a thing by its effects; work actually performed, not promises made; and following out this line of argument, taking the officers' own words, the general plan of organization, the effect upon towns and cities where it conducted fights, and lastly appealing to a few of the underlying facts of organization, we shall see whether this Union has a right to any longer be called a defender of the shoe craft; whether, speaking the real truth, it has any longer a moral right to exist.

In the July, 1896, report there were 107 Locals with a membership of 12,654. In June, 1897, less than a year afterwards, there are 110 Locals with a membership of 11,627, but there are 22 Locals with a membership of over 1,500 which are not listed. In other words, the officers organize a Local; it has for a while a large number on its books; but after purchasing a charter, and paying dues for a while it dies out; it "goes down and comes up smilin," and then, in order to smile some more, it goes down again. It finds it harder to come up, but it has its laugh out, and then dies forever, and, like the good King Henry, it never smiles again. The workers are demoralized, and it takes more than Mr. Tobin can offer them to bring them into line.

In the report for June, 1898, there are 97 Locals with a membership of 9,370, but 27 Locals with a membership of over 2,200 are missing. Taking the figures for the same months for two years, the Union shows a loss of over 3,700 members, more than 25 per cent. of the largest total. When we count up the loss which occurs from Unions which existed only a few months, and are not in the ones selected, the B. & S. W. U. has suffered to the tune of about 75 Locals and over 5,000 members.

This inability to hold or educate its men places the Union on a par with the thousand and one organizations which have lived and died; if no worse, it is no better than they.

M. Sieverman claims that the Union has made manifest advances towards Socialism. He puts that forward as a merit. Let us examine its truth. In 1895, Tobin offered a substitute preamble to the constitution, which declared for political action. Miss Mary Nasan moved its acceptance. Twenty-two per cent. of the delegates voted for it; at the 1896 convention Amendment 11 (political) received thirty-seven per cent. of the votes cast: a gain of fifteen per cent. In 1897, Amendment 36 (political) received twenty-two per cent. of the votes cast—a distinct "gain" of fifteen per cent. less than the last year. Amendment 27 was passed, and because it says that united ownership would be a good thing the B. & S. W. U. is called Socialistic. It was passed over a year ago and remains as much of a dead letter as the mass of labor laws on the books.

Mary Nason, who moved the acceptance of the minority report in 1895, has since gone to her reward as a labor leader. Great reforms were to take place when she was made an inspector. Miss Nason has not been heard of since Tobin was elected by the first convention because James Carey, of Haverhill, did not choose to run. Had Carey been at the head of the organization, as he could have been, had he stood—it would still be "on the road to Socialism?" The Union's defence for years has been that an out and out Socialist was its president. Must a Union which should include 200,000 workers depend for its existence on the honesty of one man? If political action was good in 1895, if it was worth working for in 1896, and not bad enough to oppose in 1897, why is it not good to-day? If the B. & S. W. U. would have been better with political affiliation, and that Tobin thought so is proved by his action, why is not an organization built upon the solid rock of Socialism, an organization in which there is no chance for Sheffingtons, Lloyds, Forsters, McBrides and Powderlys worth substituting for the weaker, invertebrate affair which now exists? Had Mr. Tobin won out, would the Union he advocated differ from the S. T. & L. A.? Evidently not. Yet when it is manifest that the B. & S. W. U. is on the rocks, Mr. Tobin is willing to stick to it, instead of helping to lead it to new life in a perfect form of economic organization.

Mr. Eaton, one of Mr. Tobin's converts, is still one of the "Socialist officers." Eaton opposed every progressive resolution at the conventions, and yet we find him announcing in one of his reports, that he, the sapient Horace Eaton, will not fail to remind the workers "that our employers have control of the powers of Government, that in every pitched battle these powers are used to defeat us and that we cannot hope to achieve ultimate success until we, the many poor, by the intelligent use of our suffrage wrest the control of Government from the few rich." It is particularly against such utterances as this that we must protest. It means nothing. It points to nothing. It is either a subterfuge, or a decoy. John Tobin goes about the country darkly hinting that men have votes. Eaton talks a lot of rot in his reports, but at last an issue was forced and both stand revealed in their true colors. Eaton was never a Socialist, and Eaton never thought he was, tho' he was willing to let others think so.

It was at one time the special prerogative of Mr. Samuel Gompers to sternly order the workers to "shake off their incubi," but of late Mr. Eaton has usurped that authority. In the June report he goes farther, and prints several pages of ironical question marks. Here again he lines up with his great leader, Gompers. Gompers driven to the defence, through the "Federationist," raves and curses like a weak-minded child. We find Eaton in his report, because he knows there is a force which he cannot overcome or comprehend, adopts the Gomper's tactics. "Tinsel, cesspool, stench, blacknail, manipulator, rotten-ripe" are all Gomperian terms, but Mr. Eaton did not allow him to "pre-empt" them.

Mr. Eaton argues that if Socialism is right it is inevitable. That has been advanced by every squid who has troubled the trades-union waters during the last fifty years. Let Socialism rejoice and vallore in its own heavensent beauty, but let us do nothing. It is a fighting party, and if a trades-union is used as a barrier to block its progress we must sweep that barrier aside.

Mr. Tobin having lost his temper comes out even more flat-footed. He saw six thousand people turn out in the rain to pay from fifteen to fifty cents each for admission to two theatres where the birth of an opposition semi-Socialistic paper was celebrated. Taking this into consideration he is convinced that the split is larger than the original movement. Then why does he not, being a Socialist, cast his lot with this larger and more important half? The principles of the two are the same, the tactics of the S. L. P. are wrong, the opposition left because of these very tactics—are the ones adopted right? If so there is nothing for honest, earnest Socialists to do except throw over the S. L. P.

Mr. Tobin says the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance is entangling and that if the party does not break away it will go out of existence. Very good. Mr. Tobin, being well grounded in the history and philosophy of parties, knows that "individuals have always been responsible for economic or political movements." He knows that one man, despite condition, dictates the policy of a party, that in a word a man governs and makes a party, instead of being made by it. Now the S. T. & L. A. was not born without cause. It found its raison d'etre in the state of the pure and simple union, and in the economic condition of the wage-workers. There have been too many experiments at the cost of the worker, too many sacrifices of whole bodies, because the ones to whim the men looked for instruction were false or incompetent. There is no more time for experiments, there is scarcely time to act, and any man who cannot co-operate with us must stand aside.

The economic condition of the shoeworkers during the past few years has been steadily going down. To-day we find that everyone excepting the shoemakers works at the craft.

Mr. Sieverman in the January report says, "We are frequently called upon to relieve actual destitution and want among our membership, which would seem to indicate that, effective as our Unions are, we still fall very short of solving the labor problem." Yet Marlboro, with thousands of hungry shoe-makers around, Marlboro which IS the B. & S. W. U., because it has a few hundred dollars, thinks it can fight capital with capital. Marlboro has held prices with only irregular, instead of regular, cut-downs for some years. Yet its day must come. There are the shops in Everett, Chelsea, and other Eastern Massachusetts towns where, with a few shining exceptions, the help cannot make a living wage. In some cases the price paid is about a third of the Marlboro price. Women pull over for the lasting machine; women buff and finish bottoms, children are pressed into service in every branch, and when very, very cheap help is wanted, men are hired. In the New Hampshire and Vermont towns the conditions are such that a man relying on his pay as a shoe-maker alone is practically a slave. These towns, now that the farmer finds himself no longer independent, give, in some cases, a factory free of charge to the manufacturer. The people who live in the district, between farming in their idle time, and shoe-making when they can get it, manage to exist, but the poor tramp shoe-maker, the real representative of his craft, wanders away as poor as when he came. With such ulcers and plague sores cropping out all over the industrial world can the few towns which have not as yet felt the stress believe that such a condition is eternal?

We can point to no hopeful sign in the old pure and simple union. Here in New England we see the effects of that form of organization brought to its logical conclusion. A few years ago the tanners and curriers were "strongly" organized. That is the labor leaders were getting their dues, if not their deserts. Strikes came, machinery came, and at present the most degraded, the most unapproachable, the most impossible to organize in any way is the ex K. of L. currier of Woburn, of Salem, of Peabody and of Winchester. Every whit of union sentiment has been crushed out of them by the failure of the strike and boycott. Their only hope is, that if they are servile enough, some few crumbs will be thrown to them.

Mr. Tobin, in close touch as he is with the shoe-makers, must realize that they are rapidly being sucked down in the whirlpool that ingulfed the leather workers. He cannot say, no man can say, that the pure and simple union can stem such a tide. Unless a powerful form of organization is substituted for the present one, the shoe-makers must reach a point where any union is out of the question. It is already difficult to bring them in, and as they recruit the slums more and more every day, those difficulties will increase.

In the strikes which occur so frequently it is not always the shoe-maker who takes the striker's place. Reasonably competent help is made in a few weeks. Nobody knows that better than the manufacturers. Conscious as they are of their strength, alive at all times to their class and individual interests, how long will they heed the Brockton Unionists' boast that "if you keep up the curtain, you keep up the prices?" It is a bugaboo that dupes the workers only.

The real test of the Union is to bring it to the issue for which it was organized. The fact relative to lapsed Unions given above, prove that in most cases they could not stand that test. Strike followed strike in Lynn. The men, because they were not class-conscious, because they did not know their own interests, because, to put it plainly, they were not organized, fell away. The Socialists, almost to a man, fought in the ranks of that Union, and stood by it in storm and calm. They possess conviction when trouble comes, as well as when everything is peaceful, and they do the Union work at all times. Was the secretary of the Lynn lasters responsible because prices were cut, and the Union's strength was tried? In Stoneham one strike destroyed two Unions, and there was no Alliance sentiment there at the time. The men went into the strike with a full treasury, they were a representative body of "the most perfect economic Union possible." They fought well, and they came out of the mix-up with a dozen or so men—most of whom were Socialists—"Union wreckers." The same thing happened in Haverhill, Framingham, North Adams, and a hundred other towns, and will continue to happen until the workers understand that union is founded not alone on craft, but on class. That solidarity does not mean the combination of the few against the many, but must include every force, every right and every weapon.

The S. T. & L. A. as the contrary has made manifest the fact that it develops and trains the worker, and makes the proletariat more as a unit. At New Bedford, where we entered despite the howling and incantation of every fakir in the country, we not only succeeded in lifting the workers from the quicksands, into which they had been led, but we laso laid the foundation of a true Union. The effect of the S. T. & L. A. agitation in the S. L. P. is shown by the special election last June.

The old trades-unions have at last discovered that a new movement of resistless force is thrusting them aside. Misrepresentation, and vilification availed nothing, so driven to despair they have attempted simulation. It is the sign of vicious weakness to sail under false colors, and now that the pure and simplers have resorted to it we have little to fear. It is a great advance to know that the fakirs who hold the pulse of the worker in order to see how much more bleeding he will stand, shows the fact that their old methods are doomed. The only question is how long they can hold their ground.

In attempting to intrench themselves they have made use of every vacillating member of the S. L. P., every member who found it convenient to ignore his conviction for his ease. Now they are pushing to the front the men whom the party sloughed off.

In the August "Federationist," Mr. Hoehn, "famous" as the author of "New America" and the great Debs kissing episode, undertakes to instruct the workers in true "scientific Socialism." Formerly the labor leader ridiculed Marx, now they get Mr. Hoehn to prove that the S. L. P. is not truly Marxian, and they the opponents, they who jeered, and jilted, and scoffed, and persecuted, are the true repositories of all economic privilege. The rose is plain. Socialism would now dawn, but they cannot least try to substitute the shade for the substance that is one instance.

Another. Mr. Joseph Barondess, in the "S. D. Herald," also sets out to prove that the S. L. P. isn't what it seems. After the usual cry against intolerance and dictation, Mr. Barondess attempts to tell a party to which he does not even belong what its tactics should be. As with Mr. Hoehn, the Alliance is the great thorn in the side. Mr. Barondess has the chronic habit of abolishing sweat-shops. It is over fifty years since Charles Krugiley's "Cheap Clothes, and Nasty" was published, and it brought about the abolition of the sweating system. Then members of Parliament, whose return was doubtful, found in it a good cry, a cry which often landed them safely. Now, Mr. Barondess and others find in that same cry the means whereby they live and more. They unionize the shops, yet any godgrind can buy a bogus union label. They do away with tenement workshops, yet clothing, and a large proportion of it, is still made under the filthiest possible condition, and the life destroying system is not confined to city dens. Many a woman wears her heart out in the country working day and night for almost nothing. What Union of the Barondess type can reach them? None, but after many years we have at last obtained a weapon which reaches men of the Barondess type. A victory worth winning.

Tobin, Barondess, Gompers and others have appealed to a resolution adapted by the Socialist Congress, in 1896, and all of them have used it in the same way. Comrade Arthur Keep replied to Gompers' „Federationist" article, and as Comrade Keep was one of the committee which brought in that very resolution, he spoke with authority on the subject. Yet Mr. Gompers and Mr. Barondess, neither of whom are Socialists, attempt to use that resolution, and entirely ignore the words of the very man who assisted in bringing it forth. We see, however, the petty attempts to divert the torrent of energy which cannot be stayed. No evasion, no pinchbeck imitation of Socialism will help them in the least. What ever the tactiless Socialist may think, he at least has the satisfaction of knowing that the history of the S. L. P. is for the future inextricably interwoven with that of the S. T. & L. A.

S. S.

Boston, Mass.

Keep an eye on your wrapper. See when your subscription expires. Renew in time. It will prevent interruption in the mailing of the paper and facilitate work at the office.

The receipt of a sample copy of this paper is an invitation to subscribe.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Correspondents who prefer to appear in print under an assumed name, will attach such name to their communication, besides their own signature and address. None other will be recognized.]

A Choice Specimen.

To THE PEOPLE—We have been told several times during the last few months that the members of the Socialist Labor party were abusive in their treatment of opponents, and that we do not possess the art of carrying on a discussion with gentleness and propriety of language. I remember this criticism came principally from the Social Democracy (now a corpse) through the columns of its paper, the "Social Democrat." It was also charged up against us from time to time by some of the few speakers of that defunct organization. I now have an example of the refined and gentlemanly language our critics are capable of using, and to bring out the effect of the contrast it will be necessary for me to give an account of the incident that led up to the revelation.

Last spring, Eugene V. Debs came to Washington to make a speech for the Social Democracy and the colony that was "about to be started." I heard the man give his speech, and soon after thought it my duty to watch the downfall of the movement. With this object in view I subscribed to the "Social Democrat." A couple of weeks after the Chicago convention of the now defunct Social Democracy the "Social Democrat" failed to reach me. About the same time I received a couple of copies of a new paper called the "Social Democratic Herald." But that, too, ceased its visits. I waited week after week, and as neither of the papers came I concluded to find out what was the matter. Accordingly I wrote to the "Publishers of the Social Democrat" asking them if the paper had suspended. In spite of the fact that there was printed on the envelope, "If not delivered in five days, return to Julian Pierce, Washington, D. C.," no answer reached me from the lamented "Social Democrat." In my brief communication to the "Social Democratic Herald" I informed the publisher that I had paid for the "Social Democrat" in advance, and as that paper had suspended I felt a little hesitancy in sending any more money to the new headquarters unless I was assured of the existence of the paper. And I politely asked him if the "Herald" was still being published. I added that perhaps some of the money sent in by subscribers to the "Social Democrat" had been used to pay Debs' expenses around over the country. I did not even say that I objected to having him go about at my expense. But the publisher of the "Herald," who is also national secretary of the Social Democratic party (sic!), got frothy, and this is the reply received from one of the persons who have been accusing the members of the Socialist Labor party of using abusive language:

"Executive Board—Jesse Cox, Victor L. Berger, Eugene V. Debs, Seymour Stedman, Frederick Heath.

"Chicago, Aug. 25, 1898.

"J. P. Pierce, 101 G street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

"Your communication of the 21st is received, and your cowardly language stamps you as a low-bred liar and a contemptible cur.

"When you intimate that Eugene V. Debs, whose whole life has been a sacrifice for others, has squandered your money, or that of any one else, you lie about a man who is as far above your vile level as an archangel is above a rattlesnake.

"As for the 'Social Democratic Herald,' it will be published long after you are fertilizer.

"You are at liberty to show this to coyotes of similar breed.

"THEODORE DEBS."

Now if any opponent of the tactics of the Socialist Labor party can show a letter from a member of the party containing as many billingsgate terms as this communication from the national secretary of Mr. Eugene Debs' organization, I should like to see it printed.

JULIAN PIERCE.

Washington, D. C., Sept. 3.

The "Labor Exchange" Scored.

To THE PEOPLE:—As I do not think that Mr. G. B. DeBernarde of the "Labor Exchnge" intends to publish the below letter that I have sent him, I forward it to THE PEOPLE for publication if thought fit.

LABOR EXCHANGE.

Vineyard, Mass, Sept. 5.

Vineyard, Mass., Aug. 5, 1898.

Mr. G. B. DeBernarde, Independence, Mo.

Dear Sir:—On reading the leading editorial in the last edition of your paper, "Democracy and Debt," is enough to make a man sick at heart to see the way you attempt to educate the people. You call your paper the "Labor Exchange" and one would think from the title that in some way or another you were devoting yourself—or thought you were— to reforming the system whereby labor is exploited out of three-fourths of what it produces. But what in the name of all that is great has debt got to do with it, a bonded debt, town, State, and nation, means taxes to raise money to pay interest to the bondholders. But the average man who labors pays no taxes except in this State a $2 poll tax. Of the 18,000,000 workers of this country by the census of 1890 none of them pay any tax, except those of them who are still owners of a little real estate and such are classed under the name of midle class. The proletariat or landless ones pay none, though they produce the wealth that pays the taxes, they never handle the same and the fact that where taxes are high, where the city, or town has a large bonded debt, wages are higher, which proves that the laborer is only paid enough to allow him to exist and reproduce more laborers, and the fact that the laborer lives as well in a high taxed community as in a low taxed one, effectively refutes your doctrine of "debt" and proves that you are only agitating like Mr. Singletaxer over a question of taxation, which is a question between the capitalist and middle classes and one in which the landless worker has not the slightest interest. And if you choose to take the position as an advocate of the rapidly disappearing middle class—in fact a Populist bunco-steerer—I am forced to take this opinion of you by the fact that you require every one who joins your Labor Exchange to pay to you $1.00 for what service I have been unable thus far to find out—though I have been a member for nearly a year. You claim a membership of 13,000 or 14,000, which means that numbers of dollars in your pocket, and if the whole 80,000,000 people of the United States were foolish enough to all give you a dollar, you would have become a Rockefeller. Now, Mr. DeB., in conclusion would say that I have been unable to discover but three ways of getting wealth: First, to produce it by labor of head or hands; second, to have it given to you; third, to steal it from those who do produce it. You know how you are getting it.

I am, sir, yours very truly,

LABOR EXCHANGE.

For the Study of Marx' Capital.

To THE PEOPLE:—That many of the party members are anxious to know the fundamentals of socialist science is evinced by the formation of "Karl Marx" clubs for the purpose of studying "Capital." No doubt many comrades who would like to avail themselves of such opportunity, find that for various reasons they cannot do so, and to study "Capital" independently is a hard task, so many of us need help over hard places.

To encourage those who must go at it alone and to aid the clubs as well, I think it would be a good plan for THE PEOPLE to give weekly dissertations on Marx' great work. Giving two or three weeks notice before beginning, to enable those, wishing to benefit, time to get a copy of "Capital."

If this plan is feasible, and does not impose extra labor upon the Editor, and requirers financial support I and no doubt others would be willing to give it aid. What do you say?

J. H.

Jersey City, Sept. 4.

[Such a departure would mean a special department in these columns. Communicate your exact plan to the Board of Directors. If arrangements in your sense could be perfected, it would surely add to the effectiveness of THE PEOPLE. In the mean time, the thing to do is to sit down and study Marx's "Capital," and every time the student feels stumped, have him formulate his question in a manner that is clear, to himself at least, and forward it to this office. He will be answered in the Letter Box.—Ed. THE PEOPLE.]

Pat Dolan Worsted Again in an Attempt to Skin the Miners.

To THE PEOPLE:—The carnivorus bipeds of the U. M. W. hippodrome circus of the Pittsburg district have broken loose once more, and are roaming the country in quest of that which is necessary to their existence and which of late has not been flowing in in sufficient quantities to satisfy their carnivorus appetites. Their arrival to this place was announced in the usual manner with great headlined placards and, of course, the bipeds of the Scot Haven mines assembled in mass on the 25th ult. to hear the growls and feel the grunchings of these quadruped instincted carnivorus bipeds.

We assembled to the number of 200, which is only one-fifth the numbers of employees of the above-mentioned mines, and it was not very encouraging to those mostly interested, for the reluctance of the bipeds to attend had its effect. For thre was a continuous wail from beginning to end about the reluctancy of miners in delivering themselves up to refined cannibalism for immediate consumption. Ed McKay, national organizer of the hippodrome concern, made the opening speech and in the foregoing part said: "We have come to have the five per cent. levy considered, that has been passed at a recent convention in Pittsburg for the purpose of raising a strike fund to enable us to sustain and to carry out the Chicago agreement to a successful termination. MONEY MUST BE FORTHCOMING. We have to establish camps at the river mines of the third pool, at which scale rates are not being paid. Now, if you men do not pay your levy to make the 'Chicago agreement' a success you will in the end certainly pay it to operators in reduced mine rates and will thereby lose the benefits of the greatest victory the miners ever achieved." Continuing, he said: "Anyone refusing to pay his levy, means will be employed to compel him to do so (Oh listen to the hungry wail): if the custom could be established here to stop the levy through the company's pay-rolls, as it is custom in many places in the district and particularly in Illinois and Ohio, we could raise funds enough to insure us a victory." But this whole argument fell flat when he later said: "The mining trade is not in as good a condition as it formally was and the subsequent result is that there are two surplus idle miners for everyone that was working." He never mentioned any cause, why there was a surplus of miners. Intellectually, he is bankrupt.

He concluded and made way for the greatest curiosity of the show, Pat. Dolan, the illiterate Irish biped who travels on his muscle alone, and which is the only argument he sometimes can use with effect. He said: "If the miners will contribute their levy I am sure, possitively sure, that I would win the strike for the miners. But you know first, that camps must be established, and bands hired to play and parade the public highways, to intercept and induce the blacklegs to come out and demand scale rates. The third pool river miners are working at 59 cents, scale rates is 66 cents per ton. Convention of U. M. W. miners alone held on the 2nd and 3rd ult. in Pittsburg, ordered a strike for the 10th, but no one responded, since that date a convention of river miners was called but did not materialize. We MUST have money to carry on the campaign against these operators who will not pay scale rates, and the miners who will not demand the same. We know that your wages are small, but you MUST contribute your levy or you will in the end pay it to the operators in reduced mining rates." He also remarked that the district secretary had received $125 only, of the 10 cent levy that had been carried at the convention above mentioned. This levy, according to the number they claim in the union, 5,050, should yield them $505. The 10 cent levy was for the purpose of sending foreign agitators in the field. The 6 per cent. levy on miners' earnings was the levy they were most interested in, because it would yield more to satisfy their appetites. The pugilistic biped closed by saying that two foreign speakers (the latest attractions to the show) would speak in the Slavish and Italian languages, and he also stated that anyone desiring to ask a question could do so after the speakers were done.

It was thought that they and the "latest attractions" would corral the whole job lot of us. But were mistaken in that idea, for as soon as the last speaker, the Italian (who was remerbered as a man having done scab work on the Monongehala river), was done, an Italian comrade jumped up and replied in a lengthy speech which gave entire satisfaction to the Italian miners that he had punctured the arguments of the Italian speaker, which proved that he had met his "Waterloo."

The writer next obtained the attention of the chairman and proceeded to answer the "Muscular Biped's" arguments and inquired of him how came he by such positive knowledge that he would win the strike should it be inaugurated, while such adverse conditions confronted us which they had stated, there being work only for one minor out of every three. Was it possible that one miner could keep other two, and carry the strike to a successful issue. Could he persuade a man to believe that he can support three families when in fact he knows that he cannot support his own family as they should be supported on the wages he receives for his labor. To insure success in strikes we must change tactics. We must educate our fellow miners in class-conscious solidarity by teaching them correct economics. Class interests beget class struggles, and class strugles demand class tactics, of which class-conscious politics is a part. Let us unite at the ballot box as well as in the union, and capture the public powers and thusby emancipate ourselves.

When I was through answering his arguments, "Muscular Dolan" jumped up and began a tirade of personal abuse. Said he: "This man Thomas, this Moses you have in your midst, who is going to lead you out of the wilderness, insinuatingly asks me how came I to obtain the positive knowledge that I could win the strike, and then goes on to make an hour's speech which is unfair. This man Thomas, is dishonest, he keeps company with detectives. He was seen in company of Detective Gray, of Smithton, whom I had turned out of a Pittsburg convention. This Thomas ran for district recertary's office for 1897, and because he was defeated he turned Socialist, that's the kind of a man he is. He advocated 50 tons of coal to constitute the amount that entry price should be paid for room turning (cries of "It's not so: its a lie"). He advocates starvation wages so the conditions will compel people to become Socialists; Socialists work for starvation wages too (cries of "You lie; you are a liar"). Did I have such a man in my locality or near my home that preached such doctrines and I thought that my family suffered through it, I would take it out of his hide as sure as the rising of to-morrow's sun. He is a paid agent to break up the U. M. W. Union. And there is a man named DeLeon, a professor in New York, who edits a Socialist paper, is paid by capitalists to break up the unions of the country (excitement ran high at periods and cries of "You are a liar" was heard on all sides and eventually the tirade of abuse stopped for a moment)." Then the Muscular Biped thought he would rely upon his muscular arguments, for he yelled out: "Thomas, if you repeat that again, I will throw you in that river." The writer, seeing that argument at this time was out of the question, did repeat the assertion and "Muscular Pat" made a move to put his threat into execution; but he scented danger, for a chorus of voices shouted out: "Oh, no, you don't hurt Thomas." Then Pat realized that he had done all he could do at that meeting and sat down on the grass, and probably soliloquized that he wished he had some of Dewey's pills to still further continue the fight. The chairman attempted to have a motion presented to pay the levy, but it availed nothing, for the question was left in doubt by the cries of division, and the meeting prematurely adjourned.

W. H. THOMAS.

Buena Vista, Pa., Sept. 4.

Our Reconcentrados, Can Weyler do Worse?

To THE PEOPLE:—I have had to give up my job in the dye house, Dover, N. H. It was too hard for me. There has been a great many working on it before me, they say it is the hardest one in the works. I might have stayed till spring but for the new machinery which they have put in, so we do not have any time to ourselves as we did when I first went there; nothing only horses' work, I call it. To get some idea, the floor is 4-inch spruse plank; last Feb. one box broke one spruse plank, the wheels went through the floor and tipped over; was five of us moving it, but only two regular ones are on the job. One young man, by the name of Lemon, left his job same time I did on account being too hard. You can see what kind of jobs is open for them that are looking for them. I had thirty minutes to eat my dinner, and pay a boy for carrying it 25 cents a week; it was not better than a ten dollar a month and board.

Since working there, one boy was killed in the bleach house; one man scalded in the fancy dye house, so he will be a cripple for life; one man in my room scalded; Frank Sterling, one leg went into a kittel of hot water, he will probably never have the use of his leg as it was before; one man caught his hand in a mangle and one in the soap machine in our room. Not many of these get into papers now-a-days. The rules they make us sign are outrageous.

FRANK D. TEBBETTS,

North Berwick, Me., Sept. 3.

House-Cleaning in Minneapolis

To THE PEOPLE:—We desire to inform the comrades that at a regular meeting of Section Minneapolis, held August 26, upon the recommendation of the Grievance Committee, made after regular investigation, Casca St. John Cole was expelled from membership in the Socialist Labor party.

The offense for which he was expelled consisted in writing and having published in the "Appeal to Reason" a letter attacking the discipline of the S. L. P. and advocating the formation of a new "Socialist party," and signed "C. St. John Cole, member of the S. L. P." Mr. Cole, being notified of the charge brought, failed to appear before the Grievance Committee to make any reply. The vote for his expulsion was unanimous.

ALGERNON LEE, Organizer.
W. B. HAMMOND, Secretary.
Minneapolis, Minn., Sept. 3.

LETTER BOX.

Off-hand Answers to Correspondents.

[No questions will be considered that come in anonymous letters. All letters must carry a bona fide signature and address.]

"LABOR EXCHANGE," VINEYARD, MASS.—Send your name in full and P. O. address.

J. J., SPRINGFIELD, MASS.—Comrade Daniel De Leon was a member of the faculty of the School of Political Science of Columbia College, N. Y., for the term of six years ('83-89). During that period he lectured in the department of International Law on the special subject of "Latin American Diplomacy."

"CURIOUS," COHOES, N. Y.—That Cantor-Gompers affair is only started. Wait, and you will have fun.

"CIGARMAKER," PHILADELPHIA, PA.—The "Seidenberg Spectre" is moving along nicely. Within shortly, the full account of the spectre will appear in these columns. Fractionally, from time it has been recorded here, and you will find all about it by hunting up THE PEOPLE from last March on. In a nutshell, the thing was this: An attempt to break up the Alliance cigarmakers, incidentally to furnish a living to strike committees and pickets.

B. J. B., NEW YORK.—It requires four months' residence in a county. If you move to any part of Wetschester county, you lose your vote,—annexation or no annexation.

W. S., BROOKLYN, N. Y.—You give your single tax case dead away. The point you make is just the one we made, and that knocks out single tax dialectics. That the present land owners whom Hooley bought in job lots were bought by virtue of their title to land is granted; but that only goes to confirm Socialist philosophy and expose single tax bad history. What a downfall, indeed, from "white parasols and elephants mad with pride" to decoy ducks for bogus companies! Can history furnish a more impressive picture of decline and fall? Marius on the desolate ruins of Carthage is not a circumstance.

Your blindness comes from your horison being bounded by that "economic wonder, Progress and Poverty," whose infant economics you quote with the blind devotion of a howling Derviah. No, capital is not wealth used to produce more wealth. Such a definition is as absurd as to say "all Johns are men; therefore, all men are Johns." Capital is a social product. For a thing to be capital it must have two other qualities besides that of being used to produce more wealth; those additional qualities are:

First, it must be private property;

Second, it must be powerful enough to destroy the competing power of other and less powerful tools.

Capital proper does not make its appearance until the machine age, when a machine is of such nature that it defies competition.

That you call our editorial note on Hooley and the British landlords "mud-slinging" is only an evidence that it hit your sense enough to shake your faith;—of which we are glad.

G. H. R., LAMPASUS, TEX.—The question of who pays the taxes has been frequently dealt with in these columns, notably in a recent "Uncle Sam and Brother Jonathan" column. Hunt it up.

R. S., BUFFALO, N. Y.—You ought to be ashamed of yourself to need any further information after reading that article on the financial management of THE PEOPLE in the "Cigarmakers' Journal." The figures are correct and have been officially published by the Board of Directors; but the commentaries on them in that "Journal" are so self-evidently silly that no man, whose good opinion is at all worth having, needs more than to read such commentaries in order to reject them.

"A SOCIALIST," LOUISVILLE, KY.—We address you as "A Socialist" much against our will, and simply because you take that nome de plume. You waste your time with us. Such Jeremiades will have no effect here. The S. L. P. will not swerve one inch, either to the left or to the right. The present system must be overthrown; and to overthrow a thing you must overthrow it. There is no middle way. We won't succeed with such tactics? Granted, for the sake of argument, that we may not; with your tactics failure is certain. To capture Santiago, we had to attack Santiago; our forces MIGHT have failed, MIGHT have been repelled; but they surely would never have captured Santiago had they marched into Central Africa.

B. C. J., HOBOKEN, N. J.—The property-holding class of your State was the one that most insolently upheld the right of property alone to vote.

L., RICHMOND, VA.—The capitalist class is wholly superfluous. Don't you think that you could live, love and enjoy life in a house without having a landlord to pay rent to? Is the existence of a landlord at all necessary to your life? No more, and less so is the capitalist. What makes him capitalist is his ownership of the needed tools of production. Those tools will perform their function just as well, if not better, if that capitalist is removed. He fulfills no social function whatever. Like the landlord he is a parasite, the belief in him is a superstition.

G. B., NEW HAVEN, CONN.—We don't know of any Populist party in this State. It died off two years ago, and its grave is so deep that the hand of resurrection can not fathom it.

We call the attention of the patriotic capitalist class to one more instance of how to be a Socialist is identical with being bereft of all sense of patriotism. Just at this time when our patriotic capitalist class is intertwining the stars and stripes with the British Union Jack the Sidney and Newcastle, Australia, "People and Collectivist" writes thus unpatriotically about the Queen, her Government and her country:

"A nation being auctioned without reserve on the 27th of this month in the year of our Lord 1898, and the 61st year of the glorious and beneficent reign of our great and noble queen. So roll up, friends, Australians, countrymen all, and further manacle and sell yourselves. What matters it to you that your wives and families today exist; that you only labor when the profit-mongers and plunderers in the market-place bid you—when your commodity is profitable to them? Are you not going to make a nation?"

Keep an eye on your wrapper. See when your subscription expires. Renew in time. It will prevent interruption in the mailing of the paper and facilitate work at the office.

IOWA.

(Continued from page 1.)

All wages to be paid in lawful money of the United States. Equalization of women's wages with those of men where equal service is performed.

Abolition of the veto power wherever it exists.

All public officers to be subject to recall by their respective constituencies.

Administration of justice to be free of charge. Fullest measure of self-government. Abolition of capital punishment.

We demand a progressive income tax, and tax on inheritances; the smaller incomes to be exempt and that the polltax be abolished.

ON CO-OPERATIVE COLONIES.

Resolved, That we are opposed to the tactics of all co-operative colonies, and kindred schemes to obtain the co-operative commonwealth.

NO A LA GLASGOW MUNICIPALIZATION.

Whereas, The S. L. P. demands the public ownership of all railroads, telephones, telegraphs, and all other means of transportation and communication, and

Whereas, Certain middle class politicians and capitalists are advocating government ownership of all so-called natural monopolies (a la Glasgow) to deceive the people; therefore be it

Resolved, That the delegates of this convention declare themselves directly opposed to such middle class movements, as not beneficial to the working class; and further be it

Resolved, That we urge the application of the fundamental principles of the Co-operative Commonwealth to all public services, and particularly insist upon the following demands:

Election by the employees of their respective foremen, superintendents and other officers, not elected by a general vote of the people;

A minimum salary, supplemented by an equal distribution among the employees of a portion of the surplus which, produced by their joint labor, is now appropriated by the directors and stockholders of corporations;

Another portion of the surplus shall be set aside as a pension fund for the aged and a relief for the sick employees of the State;

The remaining portion shall be applied to the maintenance and extension of said public services, the price of which shall be reduced to the extent of the saving permanently effected by mechanical and other improvements, and further be it

NO SUMPTUARY LEGISLATION.

Resolved, That we oppose all sumptuary measures prohibiting the manufacture and sale of ardent spirits, and malt beverages.

ON THE WAR AND CONSCRIPTION.

Resolved, That we view with admiration the ardent spirit of humanity which has impelled the workingmen of this country to volunteer their lives and services to politically emancipate the suffering Cubans from the barbarous oppression of the Kingdom of Spain and that we extend the sympathies of American workingmen to the oppressed Cuban and Spanish workers who are trying to overthrow the hateful despotism which is destroying them.

Fellow workers, the capitalist class which is the enemy of oppressed Cuban and Spanish workingmen, is also our enemy. The capitalist class show by their actions in the present war their real spirit; while professing great love for their country, they charge exhorbitant prices on rates for transportation and supplies, feed our soldiers on unfit and insufficient food, while the capitalists themselves enjoy their ill-gotten gains at a save distance from the enemy.

We recognize that the patriotism of the workers is enthusiasm for humanity, while the patriotism of the capitalist class is enthusiasm for profits. We heartily commend the self-sacrifice of the former and condemn the self-seeking of the latter. Profit, not service; greed, not sacrifice is the measure of capitalist patriotism.

We, therefore, call upon the workingmen of this country to be true to their own interests and to that of their wives and children, and to turn a deaf ear to the capitalist class, who rob them economically all the year round as a reward for their political support on election day.

Whereas, The life of a poor man is as dear to him as is the life of the rich man to him, and more necessary to the support of his wife and children; and

Whereas, An overwhelming majority of those who have volunteered to serve as private soldiers in the United States Army in the war with Spain have come from the ranks of the wage-working, propertyless class, we demand that in case conscription becomes necessary to keep the army up to a war standard, that the conscripts be drawn from the ranks of the property owners; the percentage of men to be drawn from each class of property owners (grading according to the wealth possessed by the individuals of the class) shall be in proportion to the total percentage of the national wealth possessed by that class.

We further demand that no man conscripted shall be allowed to purchase a substitute to take his place in the ranks of the army.

* * *

The convention requests the comrades throughout the State by spreading socialistic newspapers and literature to assist the Sections by sending in names and addresses of persons who are in sympathy with Socialism and try to send in subscriptions for the party paper. Also by organizing S. L. P. Sections in all cities where possible; also by inducing the people to join the Sections of the S. L. P. where they have already organized; and further by sending out Socialist agitators and assist them in organizing the workers into a class-conscious party.

The following is the ticket nominated:

For Secretary of State:
A. C. SWANHOLM,
of Council Bluffs.
For Treasurer of State:
AUGUST WESTPHAL,
of Davenport.
For Auditor of State:
CLAUDE BRONNER,
of Corning.
For Judge of Supreme Court:
JOHN WELLENDORF,
of Davenport.
For Clerk of Supreme Court:
AUGUST LELONECH,
of Davenport.
For Reporter of Supreme Court:
CHAS. SCHERNICKAN,
of Wolcott.
For Attorney-General:
M. J. KREMER,
of Davenport.
For R. R. Commissioner:
PETER LOHSE,
For R. R. Commissioner (to fill vacancy):
CHAS. HOSTRUP,
of Clinton.
For Representative to Congress for 2nd District of Iowa:
J. B. WELZENBACH,
of Scott County.

PARLIAMENTS OF LABOR.

General Executive Board, S. T. & L. A.

New York, Sept. 1, 1898.

At this meeting of the General Executive Board, held on the above date, the following members were present: Murphy, Luck, Vogt, DeLeon, Boudin, Hoffman, and Brower. Wilson, excused.

Minutes of August 17 read and approved as read.

Communications: One from Samuel Pincus, of Davenport, Ia., requesting instructions and material to organize a local alliance. Attended to by the secretary.—One from John Clark, of Montreal, acknowledging receipt of charter. Received and filed.—One from Peter Damm, stating he had been elected secretary of D. A. 11. Received and filed.—One from Wm. J. Eberle, of Allegheny, Pa., acknowledging receipt of charter for L. A. 191 and ordering supplies for L. A. 190. Attended to by the secretary.—One from Fred Carter, of Lynn, Mass., acknowledging receipt of manifestos and inquiring if we had heard anything of Comrade Alex McDoanld, who disappeared two weeks ago. Secretary stated that Comrade McDonald had been in the city, but he had been unable to see him. Document was received and information forwarded.—One from Henry Wehner, secretary of D. A. 10, of Boston, requesting indorsement of label of D. A. 10. On motion, the request of D. A. 10 was concurred in as the label conformed to the previous action of the Board.—One from D. M. Clegg, E. St. Louis, Ill., acknowledging receipt of charter for Iron Moulders' Union. Received and filed.—One from Henry Myers, secretary of L. A. 137, Paterson, N. J., rectifying a mistake in the number of their local. Received and filed.—One from Louis C. Fry, of St. Louis, Mo., complaining against the action of ex-secretary Bohm in not forwarding the charter to D. A. 14. On motion, the charter was granted and secretary ordered to register the same.—One from Geo. Smith, secretary of New Bedford Alliance, acknowledging receipt of manuscript of the Ditsrict Constitution passed on by the Board and also of 15 copies of the constitution of the S. T. & L. A. Received and filed.—One from Richard Schubach, secretary L. A. 104, of Philadelphia, Pa., giving the necessary information about the money order sent to ex-secretary-treasurer Waldinger, who had failed to communicate said information to his successor in office. Also inquiring why the changes were made in the Gen. Ex. Board. Secretary stated he had forwarded all the information asked for. On motion, communication was received and action of the secretary concurred in.—One from Progressive Typographical Union 83 requesting indorsement of their label. Secretary instructed to notify them that the lettering on their label did not conform to the resolution adopted by this Board at meeting held on August 17, providing that the name of the S. T. & L. A. or its initials must appear in type at least as large as any other on label, request was therefore not granted.—One from Salem, O., requesting information how to organize locals into the S. T. & L. A. Attended to by the secretary.—One from Wm. J. Eberle, of Allegheny, Pa., acknowledging receipt of supplies for L. A. 190. Received and filed.—One from Henry Ulbricht, of Detroit, Mich., acknowledging receipt of manifestos and giving general information on the movement in that city. Received and filed.—One from C. O. Cochran, of Wichita, Kans., giving general information and requesting that Comrade Keinard be sent them in November to do general agitation work for the S. T. & L. A. Secretary instructed to confer with National Secretary Kuhn of the S. L. P. on this matter.—One from Geo. A. Ballard, secretary Textile Workers', Olneyville, R. I., in answer to one sent by secretary. Received and filed.—One from Thos. J. Scott, of Lloydville, Pa., requesting application blank to organize a local and requesting information on several changes in the contsitution. Attended to by the secretary.—One from Henry Wehner, secretary of D. A. 8, of Boston, in relation to their label. Secretary was instructed to notify D. A. 8 that it would be impossible to change the resolution adopted on August 17, that the name of the S. T. & L. A. or its initials appear in type at least as large as any on the label; and in view of the earnestness he had hitherto shown in the movement, he was urged to prompt compliance.—One from Leopold Weingarth, secretary of Local 183, complaining of the neglect of ex-Secretary Bohm in sending wrong name on their charter, and when same was returned to him failing to forward another. On motion, a duplicate charter was granted and the secretary instructed to forward the same registered.—One from Comrade Hug, of Amsterdam, requesting information of the clothing cutters and trimmers. Referred to Secretary Eckstein of Clothing Cutters' Union to answer. Application for charter through D. A. 49 from Prog. Furriers' Union of New York. On motion, charter was granted.—A number of letters which had passed between Comrade Ballard, secretary of Textile Workers' of Olneyville, R. I., and Financial Secretary-Treasurer Waldinger were then read. Secretary of the Board was instructed to communicate with Secretary Ballard, explaining the revenue system of the Gen. Ex. Board and that the action of Comrade Waldinger was entirely wrong.—One from South Norwalk, requesting a speaker. Secretary instructed to answer and state that Comrade Sanial would be sent there.

The official report of D. A. 2, which appeared in the "Volkszeitung" that week, was then considered. Action: That the secretary communicate with D. A. 2 and inform them if they do not rescind the resolution published in the "Volkszeitung" on Wednesday, August 31, within 4 weeks, their charter will be revoked, and that a copy of the notification be sent to each Local of D. A. 2 and to Section New York.

The action of the Locals attached to D. A. 1, who refused to recognize the Board, was then taken up for consideration. Action: The secretary was ordered to notify the German Waiters' Union, Empire City Lodge Machinists, Silver Workers' Union, Cigarrette-Makers' Union, German Coppersmiths' Union, Carl Sahm Club, Ale and Porter Union, and United Engineers, that, if they do not reconisder the resolution refusing to recognize this Gen. Ex. Board by October 1, 1898, their charters will be revoked.

Secretary instructed to notify all organizers that hereafter the charter and supplies to organize a Local will cost $3.

On motion, Comrade Arthur Keep, of Washington, was appointed organizer for the S. T. & L. A.

All Locals having labels are requested to forward the same to general office, 23 Duane street, for indorsement.

W. L. BROWER, Gen. Secretary.

Keep an eye on your wrapper. See when your subscription expires. Renew in time. It will prevent interruption in the mailing of the paper and facilitate work at the office.

JOHN OEHLER'S Steam Printing.
87 Frankfort Street 87
Cor. Pearl St.,
Fr... Square E. R. R. Station
Orders will be taken at 116 E. 8th street, betw Avenue A and First Ave., New York City. 141

OFFICIAL.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—Henry Kuhn, 184 William street, N. Y.
NATIONAL BOARD OF APPEALS—Secretary Robert Bandlow, 193 Champlain street, Cleveland, O.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY OF CANADA.—National Executive Committee—Secretary George Moore, 61 Ryde street, Montreal.

NOTICE.—For technical reasons, no party announcements can go in that are not in this office by Tuesdays, 10 p. m.

National Executive Committee.

Session of Sept. 6th. Comrade Wherry in the chair. Absent Murphy. The financial report for the week ending Sept. 3 showed receipts to have been $48.95; expenditures, $44.64.

Section Minneapolis, Minn., reported the expulsion of Casca St. John Cole. Texas State Committee and Section Stoneham, Mass., asked for a grant of literature, which was aceded to. The Ohio State Committee applied for replacement of 15 dues stamps lost by Section Canton. Granted.

Louisville was elected the seat of the Kentucky State Committee. Charters were granted to new Sections in Hawk Run, Pa., and Rome, N. Y.

L. A. MALKIEL,
Recording Secretary.

How to Organize Sections.

All persons dissatisfied with present political and economic conditions, and who believe that the land, water works, gas works, telephone, and telegraph lines, the commercial highways on land and sea, with all their appurtenances and equipments; all the mills, mines, factories, machinery, means of production and agencies of distribution, created by the efforts of the laboring class through all the centuries of the past, ought of right to be nationalized, and operated for the benefit of collective humanity, and who are convinced that the disinherited producing class can and must transform the capitalistic methods of production and distribution into a social and co-operative system, are hereby invited to identify themselves with the Socialist Labor Party, which alone goes to the root of our social and economic evils.

1. Any ten persons may organize themselves into a section, provided they accept the platform and constitution of the S. L. P., and sever their connection, absolutely, with all other political parties.

2. OFFICERS TO ELECT.

1.—Organizer.
2.—Recording and corresponding secretary.
3.—Financial Secretary.
4.—Treasurer.
5.—Literary Agent.
6.—Chairman, each meeting.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1.—Reading of minutes.
2.—New members.
3.—Correspondence.
4.—Financial Report.
5.—Report of Organizer
6.—Report of Committees.
7.—Unfinished Business.
8.—New Business.

4. There shall be no initiation fee charged. Amount of monthly dues is fixed by each section. A monthly remittance of ten cents per member shall be made to the National Executive Committee.

5. A full report of the first meeting, including a list of membes, with inclosure of 10 cents per capita, is necessary to obtain a charter.

6. Per capita checks are furnished by the National Executive Committee at 10 cents each; such checks are pasted in monthly column on the membership card, and charged to members at such excess rate as will cover the amount of dues fixed by the section.

7. Each section shall hold a regular business meeting at least once a month, and semi-monthly meetings for public discussion or lectures on political or economic questions.

8. Quarterly reports of the numerical strength and financial standing of members, party progress and prospects, shall be promptly sent to the National Executive Committee.

9. Any person residing in a city or town where no section of the party exists may make direct application to the National Secretary, inclosing one month's dues, and will thus be enrolled as members at large.

For pamphlets, leaflets, platforms and other information, address the National Secretary, Henry Kuhn,
184 William street, New York City.

Jacob Herrlich & Bro.,
Undertakers & Embalmers,
506 6th Str., near Avenue A.
Telephone Call: 1173 Spring. 357
BRANCH: 327 E. 86th Str.

Socialistischer Frauen-Verein,
Branch II, N. Y.
(Socialist Women's Ass'n, Br. 2, N.Y.)
A Grand Concert & Ball
WILL BE GIVEN ON
Saturday, October 1st,
IN THE
Bohemian National Hall,
321 E. 73rd St., N. Y. City.
The proceeds will be divided between the Election Fund of Greater New York, S. L. P., and The People Fund.
Mrs. Johanna Greie will deliver the Festival Speech.
All Assembly Districts and sympathizin Organizations and Societies are requested not to arrange any Festivities on the day mentioned. 354
The Arrangements Committee.

I. Goldmann's Printing Office,
cor. New Chambers and William Sts.
works with Type Setting Machines
German and English.

MORRIS HILLQUIT,
Attorney at Law,
320 Broadway, Telephone: 171 Franklin.

H. B. SALISBURY, Attorney-at-Law.
Office for Consultation (Tuesday to Friday, 11 to 5) 50 Union Square, (offices of Workingmen's Co-operative Insurance Ass'n, etc.) New York.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY
—OF THE—
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

PLATFORM.

The Socialist Labor party of the United States, in Convention assembled, re-aserts the inalienable right of all meen to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

With the founders of the American republic we hold that the purpose of government is to secure every citizen in the nejoyment of this right; but in the light of our social conditions we hold, furthermore, that no such right can be exercised under a system of economic inequality, essentially destructive of life, of liberty and of happines.

With the founders of this republic we hold that the true theory of politics is that the machinery of government must be owned and controlled by the while people; but in the light of our industrial development we hold, furthermore, that the true theory of economics is that the machinery of production must likewise belong to the people in common.

To the obvious fact that our despotic system of economics is the direct oposite of our democratic system of politics, can plainly be traced the existence of a privileged clas, the corruption of government by that class, the alienation of public property, public franchises and public functions to that class, and the abject dependence of the mightiest of nations upon that class.

Again, through the perversion of democracy to the ends of plutocracy, labor is robbed of the wealth which it alone produces, is denied the means of self-employment, and, by compulsory idleness in wage slavery, is even deprived of the necesaries of life.

Human power and natural forces are thus wasted, that the plutocracy may rule.

Ignorance and misery, with all their concomitant evils, are perpetuated, that the people may be kept in bondage.

Science and invention are diverted from their humane purpose to the enslavement of women and children.

Against such a system the Socialist Labor party once more enters its protest. Once more it reiterates its fundamental declaration that private property in the natural sources of production and in the instruments of labor is the obvious cause of all economic servitude and political dependence.

The time is fast coming, however, when in the natural course of social evolution, this system, through the destructive action of its failures and crises on the one hand, and the constructive tendencies of its trusts and other capitalistic combinations on the other hand, shall have worked out its own downfall.

We, therefore, call upon the wage workers of the United States, and upon all other honest citizens, to organize under the banner of the Socialist Labor party into a class-conscious body, aware of its rights and determined to conquer them by taking possesion of the public powers; so that, held together by an indomitable spirit of solidarity under the most trying conditions of the present class struggle, we may put a summary end to that barbarous struggle by the abolition of classes, the restoration of the land and of all the means of production, transportation and distribution to the people as a colective body, and the substitution of the Co-operative Commonwealth for the present state of planless production, industrial war and social disorder; a comonwealth in which every worker shall have the free exercise and full benefit of his faculties, multiplied by all the modern factors of civilization.

RESOLUTIONS.

With a view to imediate improvement in the condition of labor we present the following demands:

1. Reduction in the hours of labor in proportion to the progress of production.

2. The United States to obtain possession of the mines, railroads, canals, telegraphs, telephones and all other means of public transportation and comunication; the employees to operate the same co-operatively under control of the Federal Government and to elect their own superior officers, but no employee shall be discharged for political reasons.

3. The municipalities to obtain possession of the local railroads, ferries, water works, gas works, electric plants and all industries requiring municipal franchises; the employees to operate the same co-operatively under control of the municipal administration and to elect their own superior officers, but no employee shall be discharged for political reasons.

4. The public lands to be declared inalienable, Revocation of all land grants to corporations or individuals, the conditions of which have not been complied with.

5. The United States to have the exclusive right to issue money.

6. Congressional legislation providing for the scientific management of forests and waterways, and prohibiting the waste of the natural resources of the country.

7. Inventions to be free to all; the inventors to be remunerated by the nation.

8. Progresive income tax and tax on inheritances; the smaller incomes to be excempt.

9. School education of all children under fourteen years of age to be compulsory, gratuitous and accessible to all by public assistance in meals, clothing, books, etc., where necessary.

10. Repeal of all pauper, tramp, conspiracy and sumptuary laws. Unabridged right of combination.

11. Prohibition of the employment ofchildren of school age and the employment of female labor in ocupations detrimental to health or morality. Abolition of the convict labor contract system.

12. Employment of the unemployed by the public authorities(county, city, state and nation).

13. All wages to be paid in lawful money of the United States. Equalization of woman's wages with those of men where equal service is performed.

14. Laws for the protection of life and limb in all ocupations, and an efficient employers' liability law.

15. The people to have the right to propose laws and to vote upon all measures of importance, according to the referendum principle.

16. Abolition of the veto power of the Executive (national, state and municipal), wherever it exists.

17. Abolition of the United States Senate and all upper legislative chambers.

18. Municipal self-government.

19. Direct vote and secret ballots in all elections. Universal and equal right of suffrage without regard to color, cred or sex. Election days to be legal holidays. The principle of proportional representation to be introduced.

20. All public officers to be subject to recall by their respective constituencies.

21. Uniform civil and criminal law throughout the United States. Administration of justice to be fre of charge. Abolition of capital punishment.

THE DAILY PEOPLE
$50,000 FUND.

Amount Pledged down to Aug. 17th, 1898.

$4,575.

Pledgers will please keep in mind the dates on which their payments fall due, as printed list, and remit promptly. If any error appears on the list, correct with equal prompt ness.

THE DAILY PEOPLE COMMITTEE.
184 William St., N. Y.

Trades and Societies Calendar.

General Office, Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance: 23 Duane St., ... New York City. Gen. ... William L. Brower. Fin. Sec'y-Tr... Patrick Murphy. General Executive ... Meetings: 1st, 3rd and 5th Thursday Ev... 8 P. M.

Standing advertisements of Trades ... and other Societies (not exceeding five ...) will be inserted under this heading ... the rate of $5.00 per annum.
Organizations should not lose such an ... tunity of advertising their places of ...

Carl Sahm Club (Musicians Un...) Meetings every Tuesday at 10 a. m. ... East 4th street, New York Labor Lyc... Business Secretary: Frei.

Central Labor Federation of New ... (S. T. & L. A., D. A. No. 1). ... at 2.30 every Sunday afternoon at 64 E... street, New York City. All bona-fide trade ... labor Unions should be represented. C... nications are to be sent to the corresp... Secretary, Ernest Bohm, 64 East 4th ... New York City.

Cigarmakers' Progressive Internat... Union No. 90. Office and Employ... Bureau: 64 East 4th street.—District I (Bohe... mian), 331 East 71st street, every Satur... 8 p. m.—District II (German), at 10 ... street, meets every Saturday at 8 p. m.—... trict III meets at the Clubhouse, 206 ... 86th street, every Saturday at 7.30 p. m.—... trict IV, meets at 342 West 42nd street, ... Saturday at 8 p. m.—The Board of Super... meets every Tuesday at Vathauer's Hall, ... 2nd avenue, at 8 p. m.

Empire City Lodge (Machinists), ... every 2d and 4th Wednesday evening ... Labor Lyceum, 64 East 4th street.
273 Secretary: Peter Stapf...

German Waiters' Union of New Y... Office: 385 Bowery, Union Hall, 1st ... Meetings every Friday at 4 p. m. ... Supervisors meets every Wednesday at 4 ... at the same hall. Telephon Call: 1751 ... street.

Musical Protective Alliance No. ... D. A. 49, S. T. & L. A., Head... 79 E. 4th street. Meetings every Friday ... o'clock noon. Fred. Hartmann, Pres. ... Woll, corr. Sec'y, 79 E. 4th St. J. S. ... Business agent.

Metal Spinners Union of New ... and Vicinity meets every second ... last Friday in the month at 8½ o'clock at
231-233 E. 33d Street.

Section Essex County, S. L. P., meets the first Sunday in each month at 8 p. m. ... the hall of "Essex County Socialist Club," ... Springfield Ave., Newark, N. J.

Skandinavian Section, S. L. P. ... 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month at ... o'clock a.m., at Teutonia Assembly Rooms, ... —160 3. Ave., New York City. Subscri... orders taken for the Scand. Socialist We... Scand. Am Arbetaren.

Socialist Science Club, S. L. P., ... 35th A. D. S. E. Cor. of 3d Av. and ... St. Open every evening. Regular busi... meeting every Friday.

Progressive Clothing Cutters & Trimmers Union, L. A. 68 of S. T. & L. A.—Headquarters, 64 East 4th street, Labor Lyceum.—Regular meeting every Thursday evening, at 8 P. M.

The Socialist Educational Society of Yorkville meets every Monday evening at 206 E. 86th St. This society aims to educate its members to a thorough knowledge of Social... ism by means of discussions and debates. Come and join.

Arbeiter Kranken- und Sterbe-Kasse für die Ver. Staaten von America.
WORKMEN'S
Sick and Death Benefit Fund of the United States of America.
The above society was founded in the year 1884 by workingmen imbued with the spirit of solidarity and socialist thought. Its numerical strength (at present composed of 155 ... branches with more than 16,000 male members) is rapidly increasing among workingmen who believe in the principles of the modern labor movement. Workingmen between 18 and ... years of age may be admitted to membership in any of the branches, upon payment of a deposit of $4.00 for the first class and ... for the second class. Members belonging to the first class are entitled to a sick benefit of $9.00 for 40 weeks and of $4.50 for another ... weeks whether continuous or with interruption. Members belonging to the second class receive under the same circumstances and length of time $6.00 and $3.00 respectively. A burial benefit of $250.00 is granted for every member, and the wives and unmarried daughters of members between 18 and 45 years of age may be admitted to the burial benefit upon payment of a deposit of $1.00. Monthly taxes are levied according to expenditures. In cities and towns where no branch exists, a new branch can be formed by 25 workingmen in good health, and men adhering to the above principles are invited to do so.
Address all communications to Henry Stahl, Financial Secretary, 25—27 3rd Avenue, Room 53, New York City.

Workmen's Children Death Benefit Fund of the United States of America.
The address of the Financial Secretary of the Executive Committee is:
Reinhard Lachner, 13 Bible House, Room 42, Astor Place, N. Y. City, N. Y.
Office hours: Monday and Friday, 1—6 o'clock P. M.—Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday, 8—12 A. M. and 1—5.30 P. M.

WORKMEN'S
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Principal Organization, New York and Vicinity.
OFFICE: 64 East Fourth street. Office hours, daily, except Sundays and holidays, from 1 to 9 o'clock P. M.
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Paterson, Newark, Elizabeth, South River, Passaic and Trenton, N. J.
Manchester, N. H.
Adams, Boston, Holyoke, Springfield, Mass.
New Haven, Waterbury, Meriden, Hartford, and Bridgeport, Conn.
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